



profile

The Frostburg State University Magazine

Volume 14 Number 2
Summer 2002

the writing group

awards, honors, national recognition:
from a small group comes big success



profile

Vol. 14 No. 2 Summer 2002

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Dear Friends, points of pride

We are pleased to be sending you our summer edition of *Profile* in our new magazine format. Following the distribution of our first issue in this style, our Office of Advancement received many accolades from our readers. Our staff members are to be congratulated for taking this publication to a new level of professionalism.

As you can see from the table of contents, this issue contains a wide range of fascinating articles about our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends of the University. We are very proud of their accomplishments and are pleased to share with you their good news.

Many of you may know that the University System of Maryland welcomed a new Chancellor on Aug. 1. I was privileged to serve on the search committee that recommended his appointment, and I am delighted that he has agreed to come. Dr. Brit Kirwan served for over 30 years in various capacities at the University of Maryland, College Park, including nine years as its president. In 1998, Dr. Kirwan became the president of Ohio State University, an institution which recently named a Center for Diversity in his honor. They are loathe to see him leave

Ohio; those of us who knew and worked with him are thrilled to see him return.

During Dr. Kirwan's presi-

dency at College Park, we worked closely to establish our undergraduate programs in mechanical and electrical engineering here at Frostburg. In these collaborative programs, identified by the national accrediting agency for engineering as virtually unduplicated in the nation, students remain at Frostburg for their entire pro-



Dr. Catherine R. Gira

gram but earn a degree from the University of Maryland. We have appointed several engineering faculty on our campus and have set up the needed laboratories for the programs. Course work is offered by our faculty and, through distance learning, by College Park faculty at a cost far less expensive than maintaining two separate engineering schools. Our first graduates of these innovative programs have gone on to secure excellent jobs in the field or to pursue further graduate study. This year, a team of our students received honors in an international competition for creative design work. By virtually all measures, the program has successfully provided opportunities for students from Western Mary-

land and throughout the state to earn an engineering degree at Frostburg State University.

In anticipation of his arrival, Dr. Kirwan asked each campus in our System to identify several "Points of Pride," so that he may get to know all of us a little better. At two retreats of our University Cabinet, we pooled our thoughts and finally narrowed our list to the following eight, although we could have listed many more:

- Our critical role in providing educational, cultural and community service activities for citizens of Western Maryland and the tri-state region (e.g., FSU's community service initiative has been recognized as a national model for collegiate service by the Corporation for National Service and AASCU).
- Our role as a major economic engine for the region (e.g., the budget for the City of Cumberland is \$25 million, while the University has an operating budget in excess of \$70 million).
- Strong alumni support (FSU has the highest percentage of alumni giving of any USM institution).
- Collaborative programs that enrich opportunities for our students and those of our partners (e.g., University of Maryland College Park/FSU programs in engineering; FSU/University of Maryland Baltimore County degree in applied physics; FSU/West Virginia University/Maryland Biotechnology Institute program in ethnobotany; FSU/University of Maryland Baltimore programs in nursing, chemistry and pharmacy; FSU/Allegany College of Maryland programs

in technical and professional studies in health administration and addiction counseling; FSU / ACOM/WVU degree in community health promotion; FSU/Community College of Baltimore County offering in therapeutic recreation; FSU/Garrett College degree in adventure sports and recreation).

- Diversity of student population: 15% minority/11% African-American students enrolled in a region which identifies only 3% of its population as African-American.
- The achievements and national recognition of individual faculty, staff and students, as well as specific programs.
- Twice rated the safest college in Maryland (Healey Roman Associates, *Dangerous Colleges*, 1997; *Crime at College*, by Curtis Ostrander and Joseph Schwartz, 1994).
- Community-building programs that offer first-year students a positive educational and transitional experience (e.g., Learning Communities, Allen HallSTARS!, G.O.L.D. leadership programs and Honors).

As you read this issue of *Profile*, you will find stories about a number of the individuals and programs referenced in our "Points of Pride." I hope that you will enjoy these stories and that you will share our pride in the accomplishments of our institution and the individuals responsible for its excellence.

Sincerely,

Catherine R. Gira

Catherine R. Gira
President
Frostburg State University

New format is a hit!

Editor's Note: The results are in and the new format of Profile Magazine is a hit! Thank you to the numerous alumni who sent cards and e-mails congratulating us on our inaugural issue. Here are a few of your comments:

...I want to say how pleased I am with the new format and quality of this publication. It's a tribute to the intellect and sensitivities of the editorial staff that in one issue you capture historical highlights that link in so many ways to the today and the tomorrow of FSU...

Jerome R. Cordts
Class of '83

...I'd like to congratulate you on the Winter 2002 issue of *Profile*. It had a good mix of subject matter; good writing; nice tone. Well done!

Sandra Costich
Associate Editor
The American Scholar
Class of '65

... Congratulations on the FSU magazine! I sat down and read it cover to cover as soon as I received it.

Sheryl A. Bauerschmidt
Assistant Editor of *Hood Magazine*,
Hood College
Class of '96

...Wow! I am impressed. I got my master's from Indiana State University (Terre Haute) and for years I have been getting a magazine from that school that was glossy, glitzy and informative – on the whole, well written and well produced. You topped it. *Profile* is a professional periodical...

Vince Clews
Class of '66

(Letters have been edited for space. Views and opinions expressed by readers are not necessarily those of Frostburg State University or Profile Magazine.)



Stephanie Roper

Dear Editor,

Congratulations on the wonderful story you did on Stephanie for the alumni magazine. So many people have contacted us expressing their thoughts about Steffi and the beautiful story you wrote. I am deeply grateful for your caring and sensitive presentation of how Stephanie lived her life, not how it was taken from her. Yesterday was the 20th anniversary of her death – a bittersweet day... My heart is full of joyful memories.

Roberta Roper
Stephanie Roper Committee and
Foundation

Dear Editor,

I have just read "Stephanie," your story of a young woman's tragic death and its outcome. Like many other readers, I never met Stephanie, yet I feel that I knew her because of your portrait in words.

Too often we forget what once inspired us – in this case the courage exhibited by the Roper family in response to their loss. Your article does a service to Stephanie's memory, her family's strength, and to other victims of violent crime. You have clearly illustrated the power of one person to make a difference, specifically the power of the union of people touched by Stephanie Roper's life and death.

Thank you for choosing to

memorialize this remarkable young woman and the enduring legacy of her death in the inaugural issue of Frostburg State University's magazine.

William Donald Schaefer
Comptroller of Maryland

Dear Editor,

I always look forward to reading the *Profile*. As a 1982 graduate, this issue was especially haunting for me. The photo of Stephanie on the cover brought back the memory of her tragic murder.

I had briefly met Stephanie outside the Lane Center only a few weeks before her death. Even though it was only a chance encounter, I became instantly aware of her vitality and immediately understood just what a special person she was. I remember signs of her disappearance being posted around campus and wondering what could have become of her.

Having grown up not far from where Stephanie lived, it was a chilling experience to discover the circumstances of her death and to realize the horror she must have experienced. I remember, too, the outrage I felt when I read of the concurrent sentencing that would allow a possible early release for Stephanie's murderers.

I am grateful to know that the Roper family has come to some sense of peace with her tragedy. Their courage and fortitude in bringing change to the judicial system is truly amazing. Thank you for sharing their story. It is one I will never forget.

Jan (Gaines) Seldin
Class of '82

Dear Editor,

I have just finished reading your story on Stephanie Roper in the latest edition of *Profile Magazine*. I am a member of the class of '82 and knew Stephanie. Thank you for

the outstanding article. It has been years since I thought of her and she is a person that should never be forgotten. Although it was very painful to relive the memories, it was more important to remember what an outstanding person Stephanie was. She certainly was remarkable and while no article can capture a person completely you have come as close as possible. I look forward to your future issues.

Shawn Chelton
Class of '82

Dear Editor,

Thank you for dedicating the first issue *Profile Magazine* to Stephanie Roper. I keep picking up the magazine and can't seem to put it away.

I was a sophomore at FSU (then FSC) in 1982. Stephanie was a friend and a great role model for me. Like Stephanie, I became a peer advisor, a Lane Center student worker and very involved in the Campus Activities Board. I was devastated by her death and have thought of her many times over the years. I was so pleased to hear about all the positive work her parents and the Stephanie Roper Foundation and Committee have been able to accomplish.

I really enjoyed the first issue of *Profile*. It really made me proud to be an alumna.

Sofia Taylor
Class of '84

Dear Editor,

Thank you for your feature story on Stephanie Roper. It truly took me back to that time.

You celebrated her life — doing as much justice as one could hope to do in third person. It was a privilege to have known Stephanie. Your article captured her essence. I completely agree with Mrs. Roper – she was "sunshine..." You shared with us of

continued ►

how Stephanie's legacy lives! Mr. and Mrs. Roper (as well as her brothers and sister) are incredibly special people. It is so true that the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. I vividly recall the strength they exhibited at Stephanie's funeral. They spent most of day comforting Stephanie's friends. Having moved around quite a bit, I had no idea how much they have accomplished for victims of violent crimes. We owe them a great debt of gratitude. Your article renewed the need for our advocacy. Whether or not Mr. and Mrs. Roper are at the helm, the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation should continue. Moreover, the men responsible for her murder should not be allowed to walk free. Ever.

Please keep us posted on any developments.

Rick Brindle
Class of '82

Dear Editor,

What a delight – the beautiful face of Stephanie Ann Roper on the cover of *Profile*. Your account is very true, but let me add that she was as strong in the practice of her faith as she was in the practice of

other virtues. She was supportive of campus ministry and was one of the students who came to the Osborne Center to bake bread for the Sunday liturgies celebrated in Cook Chapel. If another student was unable to fulfill their task, Stephanie could be counted on to stop by and bake the bread. She was simply charming to have around. "Sunshine" – that is the word.

Fr. Kieran Fergus, O.P.
FSU Catholic Campus Minister
1973-1989

For more information on the Stephanie Roper Committee and Foundation, visit online at www.stephanieroper.org.

"The Rest of the Story"

Dear Editor,

I finished reading the Winter 2002 issue of *Profile* and I take this opportunity to congratulate you and your staff on a very fine publication.

For the sake of accuracy, I must correct an error in the article on the student newspaper "Never a Dull

Moment." I must state a concern that the rest of the story is not told.

The story refers to my resignation and states that I attributed it to "media pressure and hidden agendas." The story, along with other stories on this matter that have appeared in FSU publications, never mentioned that I am the one who asked the state auditor to come and fully investigate the matter. Nor did this article, or others in FSU publications, ever mention that the auditors publicized report stated there was no intent of any wrongdoing. You should know as do others that I had the state auditors report prior to the press conference I called to announce my resignation. Knowing that the findings showed no intent of any wrongdoing did not at all change my mind to resign. Further, the transcript of my announcement that day will show that I said, "I was tired of the garbage."

I am just hopeful that someday some Frostburg State University publication will state all the facts of that matter and the rest of the story.

Herb. F. Reinhard
President, Frostburg State University, 1986-1991

Dear Editor,

I, like most of us, am inundated with too many things to read and too many things to remember. However, I did take the time to read your history of the FSU's student newspaper in the latest *Profile Magazine* because of my involvement with the newspaper and the Student Association in the 1970's. It provided me an opportunity to put the growing I did during that period into perspective.

My wife and I met over a story she wanted me to write (I was the news editor) about dorm damages. She ended up writing the story

(after all, she was the English major). We used to play penny-ante poker with Ray Bowie (his advice was usually better than his poker)! Your staff must have spent a fair amount of time researching the article. However it appears that an April Fool's issue from 1975 was not mentioned. It was entitled "State-Too-Late" and had two exhaustively researched and important stories: President Nelson Guild had been kidnapped and Ed Newman had been elected God. My wife and I were not dating at the time, but she was elected Pope — because it was time for a Pope with good legs....

Ed Newman
with Deanna Lick-Newman
(standing over his right shoulder)
Class of '75 and '77 respectively

Dear Editor,

I was amazed and then amused at a statement made in her Winter 2002 *Profile* article. It says, "Between 1967 and 1972, *State-to-Date* ceased publication." That didn't happen. I was managing co-editor of *State-to-Date* during 1971-72, and before me I have copies of 25 issues Marta "Fred" Forward and I co-edited from September 23, 1971 through May 8, 1972.

Fred and I followed Rosemary Klein, who was editor during 1970-71, and I know the paper was published while I was a freshman and sophomore from 1968 to 1970. The paper's staff covered campus speakers like Strom Thurmond and Rennie Davis or entertainers like Linda Ronstadt, on her first solo tour after leaving the Stone Ponies.

Far from dead, *State-to-Date* was vibrant during those years that seem to be missing from the record.

Gary B. Blank, Ph.D.
Class of '72 and '75

Editor's Note: We apologize for our inaccuracy. A special article on those "missing years" can be found on page 29 of this publication.



The Palace Theatre marquee

AboutTown

The Frostburg Palace Theatre on Main Street has been a city landmark and memorable place for FSU students for decades. The Theatre continued to show first-run movies until the early 1980s. After being dark for many years (minus community theatre productions and the occasional special screenings of classic and children shows), the Theatre re-opened for a few years in the late '90s in conjunction with another local cinema.

Most recently, The Frostburg Palace Theatre, Inc., a non-profit organization, has paid off the Theatre's mortgage and is planning a possible film series for the fall.

Do you have a special memory of the Palace Theatre? A movie you saw for the first time or an event you attended? Share your thoughts with us. Send letters to: *Profile Magazine* Editor, Frostburg State University, 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-1099.

Or you can e-mail: tdemartino@frostburg.edu.

In the last edition of Profile, we asked for your memories of Frostburg "hotspots." Here are a few of your letters:

...The spots that I remember most that my roommate Susan Dalton-Mason, our friends and I used to hang out at were what we called "The Donut Pit." We used to go there around 1 - 2 a.m. and they had the BEST donuts! They were just made and still hot and they just melted in your mouth!

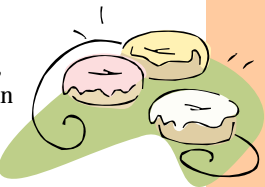
We also hung out at the "Reef" — which was right on Main Street in town and we always went to Duncan's for the best chili anywhere.

The final town memory I have is right across the street from the campus—Hi-Way Pizza! That was another great gathering place where we had lots of fun and good pizza.

Andrea Bove-Walsh
Class of '82

...At Frostburg, the weekend began on Wednesday night at Mike's Tavern for a little bluegrass music and playing the spoons. Thursday evenings at the Reef were popular for the 30-cent drafts. We usually went back to the Reef on Friday around 2 a.m. closing time. Our walk home was always rewarded with a stop at a place where the Frostburg bakery made all of their baked goods for their shop to sell. Those warm glazed doughnuts and chocolate chip cookies hit the spot! The end of the weekend came on Saturday night when we went to Lonaconing for the \$2 all-you-can-drink blowouts. Fortunately, there were buses to take us back to campus. It was then on to a friend's dorm room for the 2 O'clock Club. Sunday was our day of rest.

Carole Bollinger McShea
Class of '81



practical advice

Need a Job? Point and Click

College Central Career Resources Open to Alumni

Thousands of job-hunters these days have discovered that the Internet offers a multitude of resources for career exploration. As a result, related Web sites abound, offering everything from career information tools to resumé services to job search engines.

One such site, College Central (www.collegecentral.com), is now available to Frostburg State University alumni as well as students with Internet access. Alternating messages flash in the upper right of the site's home page: "Find your dream job TODAY!" and "Search across 75 Web sites!" Three primary links – Resumé Central, Jobs Central and Job Fair Central – guide Web surfers to resources targeted specifically to alumni and to students. Near the bottom, surfers can click on links targeted to students and alumni, and can click on "Employers Central" to search jobs or post a resumé. Other resources include Career Corner, Campus News, Issues, Personal Finance and Weather. Visitors can also submit news and search archives.

Given today's turbulent career climate, FSU grads may find the alumni link especially helpful, whether they're changing jobs or careers. Frostburg's information for alumni can be reached by two methods. Through the College Central Web site, click on the alumni link on the home page. By following subsequent links, you'll eventually come to a log-in page. Enter "Frostburg State University" where prompted and use "frostburg" as the password. Then you can register by creating your own password. Or you can go directly to a page in FSU red and black via www.collegecentral/frostburg, which features "Students/Alumni," "Employers" and "Announcements."

Clicking on "Announcements" will take you to a page of links to upcoming events, forms online, recruiting schedules and other information from FSU's Office of Career Services.

"Alumni Connections" for graduates interested in networking with other alumni or students can be reached by clicking on the "Students/Alumni" link. To participate, alumni can post their profiles by logging in with the "frostburg" password, filling out an online form and creating a personal username and password. Profiles can be modified as needed. Grads can also search for other alumni participants and select services they're willing to offer students and other graduates, such as mentoring, critiquing resúmes and cover letters, conducting mock interviews and speaking to students about their careers.

"It's a really good system for alums, students and employers," says Dr. Robbie Cordle, director of FSU's Office of Career Services.

For more information, contact Dr. Cordle at 301/687-4404 or rcordle@frostburg.edu.

— Sara Mullins

Clarifications, Winter, 2002 Edition:

- In the article "Beall Family Donates Archives" (p. 12), Mrs. Beall's first name should have been listed as "Margaret."
- The award criteria list for the David Sanford Graduate Fund was incorrect ("Sanford Fund Reaches Endowment Goal," p. 11). The criteria should have read: "Applicants must be enrolled full-time or part-time at Frostburg State University as a graduate student. Applicants must have an undergraduate degree from FSU and received a varsity-sport participation letter. The recipient(s) must have an FSU overall grade point average of 3.0 or better."
- Former *State-to-Date* editor Timothy Sheldon's name was misspelled (p.28).



Dave Sanford

FSU Recognized by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

It took more than three years and meeting the standards of 14 different national associations that govern subject areas of teaching, but now FSU can say it has achieved accreditation by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education. It's also one of the first institutions in the nation to meet NCATE's new standards.

The new, performance-based guidelines implemented by NCATE dramatically change the way teacher education is evaluated, and FSU is one of only 36 schools to meet the standards, out of a total more than 640 institutions that have either been accredited or are seeking accreditation by NCATE.

for Childhood Education International, from which Frostburg was one of the first two institutions recognized under ACEI's new performance-based standards.

NCATE and the national associations are putting new emphasis on not only what courses are taught in a teacher education program, but also on collecting the data that proves how well the content is learned. In the past decade, NCATE has moved from an accreditation system that focused on

“For students, NCATE accreditation increases the prestige of their degrees. Graduates can say proudly that they graduated from an NCATE institution.”

— Dean Susan Arisman, FSU College of Education

FSU, like all higher education institutions in Maryland with enrollments of more than 2,000 students, was required to gain NCATE approval by the state of Maryland under its Redesign for Teacher Education. According to Dr. Susan Arisman, dean of the FSU College of Education, when the new rule was enacted in the late 1990s, FSU had already set its accreditation drive in motion. A number of Maryland institutions have NCATE accreditation but most have not yet been evaluated under these new guidelines.

As part of the NCATE process, FSU's various teacher certification programs had to achieve recognition from 14 different professional content associations, such as math, science and health education, including the Association

curriculum and what teacher candidates were offered to a data-driven, performance-based system dedicated to determining what candidates know and are able to do. The institution must provide evidence to that effect.

“For students, NCATE accreditation increases the prestige of their degrees. Graduates can say proudly that they graduated from an NCATE institution,” Arisman says.

FSU was last accredited by NCATE in the 1980s, but when the state of Maryland chose a different direction regarding standards, the accreditation was not renewed, Arisman says.

“It's a credit to the quality of the program that we made it on the first attempt,” explains



New Residence Hall Complex on Campus

A private corporation has broken ground for a new \$18 million residence hall complex on the FSU campus. Called “Edgewood Commons,” the new garden-style apartments will house approximately 400 students.

The facility is configured with two, three or four students sharing an apartment, each with a private bedroom. A consultant's survey of FSU students and Frostburg area landlords last fall put the demand for housing at 450 students and a 1 percent yearly growth in student population is projected at FSU over the next decade.

Situated on 6.75 acres of campus land, the building site is located to the west of University Drive, north of the Stangle Building and south of the intramural fields.

The University will lease its property to the Maryland Economic Development Corporation (MEDCO), a governmental conduit issuer that owns, finances and operates public facilities. Belt/AP/Davis/Davis LLC, an experienced provider of privatized student housing that combines the firms of Carl Belt Inc., Academic Privatization LLC, Davis Heritage Ltd. and Davis Property Management Inc. will design, develop, build and manage the apartment complex.

FSU officials held a contest for students, faculty and staff to name the new facility. “Edgewood Commons,” submitted by René Atkinson, station manager of WFWM, the campus radio station, won and was approved by Residence Life, the Residence Hall Association and the President's Student Advisory Council.

An opening is projected for the fall of 2003.

— Ty DeMartino



Arisman. “It's a tribute to the faculty that they remained at such a peak of performance over the years even though they didn't go through the national [accreditation] process.”

According to Arisman, a number of schools have expressed interest in looking at Frostburg's information as they go through the NCATE process themselves.

Meeting the new NCATE accreditation standards will also helps FSU prepare new teachers

for more rigorous licensing standards now found in many states.

The U.S. Department of Education recognizes NCATE as the professional accrediting body for schools, departments and colleges of education.

— Liz Douglas Medcalf

Student Preserves Plant Used in Treating Cancer

When the substance Taxol, or paclitaxel, a potent cancer-fighting drug, was found in the bark of the Pacific yew tree, it was cause for rejoicing among ovarian and breast cancer patients, but there was also concern. Since the bark of the tree had to be harvested and the trees killed to make the drug, many were concerned that the trees would be harvested too quickly to be replaced for the future.

Fortunately, the drug can now be made synthetically, but the yew has other substances that scientists are examining for their potential in other cancer treatments. So it was a happy discovery when Taxol was found in native yew shrubs in the East, not only in the bark, but also in the needles, which, if the need arises, can be harvested without killing the trees.

A small part of the research into the viability of the eastern yew, called American yew, is being done at FSU.

Kristi Weigle, who graduated in May 2002 with a major in biology and a biotechnology concentration, wanted to learn how to use

some of FSU's biotechnology equipment, including a genetic analyzer, before she graduated. Dr. Michelle Bowe of the Biology Department, was doing research into the American yew that required genetic analysis. They found each other, and thanks in part to a Faculty Development Grant, they have been working to identify how rare the *Taxus canadensis* shrub is in Western Maryland, one of its southernmost habitats.

Weigle has been comparing populations in Maryland, where the yew plants are rare, with a population in Pennsylvania, where the shrub is much more common.



Dr. Michelle Bowe and student Kristi Weigle work with the genetic analyzer to study rare shrubs that help fight cancer.

The plants grow in the understory of hemlock forests.

“In Maryland, the yew is already protected, but may need to be monitored more closely,” Bowe says.

Toward the end of the school year, Weigle was still running samples through the genetic analyzer, which looks at DNA fragments. The analyzer produces a chart with a series of peaks of different heights, called an electropherogram. Those peaks are part of the plant's DNA fingerprint. This is particularly important to

run with yew samples, Weigle says, because yew grow in clusters, and samples of several shrubs could actually all be part of one large plant connected by underground stems.

Weigle and Bowe collected their samples in Garrett County in the Jacob's Ladder and Carey Run areas. Only a small cluster of needles is needed to analyze each shrub, so there is no danger of damaging the population while studying it. A previous student of Bowe's, Mark Lewis, had col-

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Proposed Center Would Continue Research of Medicinal Plants

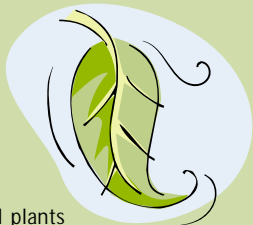
The Maryland General Assembly this year moved to protect one of the oldest and most pristine old-growth forests in the Savage River State Forest in Garrett County, believed to be the largest old-growth forest north of the Great Smoky Mountains. The “wildlands” designation allows researchers — and FSU students — to study the often rare animals and plants, including trees up to 400 years old, in what is now designated the Savage Woods Research Forest.

Officials hope that resource can give birth to another, the proposed Appalachian Center for Ethnobotanical Studies, a collaboration between FSU and the University of Maryland Biotechnology Institute. A feasibility study funded by the Appalachian Regional Commission is under way to determine the prospects for ethnobotany and for establishing the Center. Ethnobotany is best known for the study of medicinal plants, but it is also the study of the cultural and sociological aspects of plant use.

The Center would be devoted to the study and conservation of native medicinal plants, as well as the preservation of the Appalachian culture of harvesting plants for herbal medicines. Ideally, those studies could lead to economic development, both from cultivating the medicinal plants currently found in the Appalachian wilds and from pharmaceutical companies that choose to locate in the area to take advantage of this resource, especially in the Allegany Business Center at Frostburg State University (ABC@FSU). The Center's areas of study would not be limited to the roughly 1,000 acres of the Savage Woods Research Forest.

A memorandum of understanding on the use of Savage Woods still must be formulated between FSU, UMBI and the Maryland Department of Natural Resources.

— LDM



lected samples in the Sweet Root area in Bedford County, Pa., so they had a group with which to compare.

Once the samples are collected and labeled, they are placed in a freezer at minus 80 degrees Celsius. Then the frozen needles are ground and DNA is extracted with a kit. This extract is then used in a series of enzymatic digests, ligations and PCRs which are then run through the genetic analyzer.

With only a few weeks left in the school year, Weigle still had a great deal of work to do.

“This could be a master’s level project,” Bowe said.

Bowe says they will try to get the paper published, although some additional work may be required.

- LDM

Simpson Appointed Provost

Dr. Stephen J. Simpson has been named FSU provost. Dr. Simpson has been acting as interim provost since May of 2001, following the retirement of Dr. Christine Grontkowski.



Dr. Steve Simpson

“Dr. Simpson has developed a clear vision and action plan to move the division forward,” President Catherine Gira stated. “His associates at all levels consistently give him high marks for his intelligence, fairness and integrity.”

Dr. Simpson has been a member of the political science faculty at Frostburg since 1978 and more recently served as chair of the department.

He chaired the Institutional Priorities Resources Committee for the FSU Faculty Senate for the

past few years, focusing on planning, priorities and budgets in the Division of Academic Affairs. He also served as Interim Dean of the School of Natural and Social Sciences from 1991 to 1993 and was directly involved in institution-wide planning.

Dr. Simpson won the Faculty Achievement Award in 1986 for College and Community Service.

He received his master’s and doctorate degrees at Princeton University and his undergraduate degree from Dickinson College.

Dr. Simpson resides in Frostburg with his wife, Lisa.

— TD

Senior Wins Cooke Scholarship

Roger Skipper, a 50-year-old Navy veteran and grandfather who put two children and his wife through college before pursuing his own

education, is among the first group of students to be awarded the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship.

Skipper, of Oakland, Md., in Garrett County, will pursue a Master in Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing through a non-residential program at Vermont College in Montpelier, Vt. He graduated summa cum laude from FSU in May 2002 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English with a focus on creative writing. He also received departmental honors in English.

Skipper is one of 50 men and women ages 19 to 50, who represent the “first class” of Cooke Foundation scholars. Each will receive up to \$50,000 a year for up to six years to pursue graduate studies at an accredited university. The scholars were selected from a group of 675 applicants.

The late Jack Kent Cooke, who

built a media empire and owned the Washington Redskins football team and the Los Angeles Lakers basketball team, was unable to go to college in the midst of the Depression. He set aside the bulk of his estate to create a foundation dedicated to education.

Skipper, who was a lumber company executive before he returned to college, has written one novel and has a second in the works. He also builds and plays musical instruments.

With his writing, Skipper wants to capture the Appalachia that he knows, jokingly calling it “redneck fiction.” “I want to write about the strange and wonderful things that have happened to me – like this,” he said at the announcement ceremony for the Cooke scholarships.

— LDM



Roger Skipper

USM Honors Eisel

Susan E. Eisel, administrative assistant in the FSU Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation, was one of six staff members the University System of Maryland Board of Regents honored this past July. Eisel was recognized in the category of Exceptional Contribution to the Institution — Nonexempt.

The six award-winners were selected from across the USM based on nominations and letters of support from colleagues, culminating in a formal recommendation from the Council of University System Staff. The Regents’ Staff Awards, now in its third year, represent the highest honor bestowed by the Board for achievements of the exempt (salaried) and non-exempt (hourly) employees of the USM institutions. Each award carries a \$1,000 prize.

In his nomination letter, Robert Lewis, a professor in the department, said that Eisel, an employee for more than 35 years, “has performed astounding amounts of work in managing the day-to-day business of the department. ... She has made exceptionally positive connections with a wide variety of students, faculty members, administrators and fellow staff members. She is so highly regarded that virtually all of our former students who return to campus make a visit to her office to greet her; she remembers every one of them.”

Eisel’s activities include acting as assistant coordinator of the 32nd World Congress of the International Council for Health, Physical Education and Recreation; member of the Board of Directors of the FSU Bobcat Club; member of the FSU President’s Cabinet; member of the faculty/staff campaign for the FSU Second Century Campaign, and many others.



Jim Antonio (Class of '74)

Alumnus Named FSU Vice President

This past semester, James Antonio (Class of '74) was appointed as FSU’s vice president for enrollment management.

He previously worked at St. Mary’s College of Maryland where he served as dean of admissions and financial aid for nine years and as director of admissions before that. He holds a Master of Arts degree in Higher Education Administration from George Washington University.

Jim is married to Deanna Bovender (Class of '72).

“It’s great to be back in Frostburg,” he says. “It’s a place I care about a lot. I’m so happy to be here.”

Profile asked Jim to answer a fun “getting to know you (again)” survey. Here are the results:

getting to know...

JUST THE FACTS

A cause dear to my heart:
World peace (or if we can't have that, establishing a memorial to the Coral Reef)

Favorite comfort food:
P.O.C. (certain alumni will get this!)

Nobody knows I can:
Juggle.

Currently reading:
The Cumberland Times-News (very slowly - to make it last)

Favorite place on the FSU campus:
The entire campus - no particular place (In the Frostburg area - Dan's Track)

Cats or dogs:
One of each.

Favorite book:
"Physical Geography" by Straler (1972)

Favorite movie:
Anything with explosions.

What's under your bed?:
Not sure. Afraid to look.

Favorite type of music:
Rock 'n' roll.

Famous person I resemble:
A lot of people tell me I look like Michael Tucker from "L.A. Law."

Favorite household appliance:
My ice-maker or TV.

My mentor:
Dr. Donald Duckson (former FSU geography prof.)

Favorite vacation spot:
Southport, North Carolina

If I couldn't work in higher education...
I'd be playing music (for no money)

Favorite TV Show:
"The West Wing."

FSU class that was surprisingly helpful:
Dr. Lackey's "World Politics" class.

Favorite song:
"American Woman" by The Guess Who.

Greatest love:
My family.

The Foundation of the Foundation

Looking Back to the Roots of the FSU Foundation

In the 30-plus years the FSU Foundation has been in existence, it has gone through some changes, but its mission has remained steady. *Profile* spoke to some current members of the Board of Directors to find out what the Foundation was like in its beginnings.

When the FSU Foundation began in 1970, its aims were simple: provide scholarships to needy students and raise the profile of the college in Frostburg that was no longer “just” a teachers college. “Scholarships were the real reason for our being,” says Chauncey Sanner, a retired construction company executive who has been on the Foundation’s board of directors since 1973, the longest-



Signing Off – James Hadra, a volunteer for FSU’s WFWM public radio station, “retired” after 13 years of service. Hadra served as a classical music announcer, the classical music director and a member of the station’s advisory board. He was formally commended by FSU President Catherine Gira at her 2000 Fall Convocation for his commitment to bringing “the culture of classical music to his local and worldwide listeners” and his “tireless dedication, inimitable style and oh-so-precise diction” on the air. Hadra retired from FSU in 1996 after 24 years of teaching foreign languages.

“A lot of these young people wouldn’t have gotten their education without help from the Foundation,” says Dr. Jim Poland, a local optometrist who has been on the board for more than 20 years. Poland is in the second of three generations of his family who have graduated from Frostburg State, starting with his mother in 1927. As for its profile, Frostburg State also benefited from the public relations work of Foundation members. “I saw my role as to create P.R. between the community of the University and the communities of Frostburg and Cumberland and the surrounding area – to get people involved,” says Phyllis MacVeigh, who has been a member of the board since the mid-1970s. “Frostburg was an entity that kind of sat up there. It was just thought to be a teacher education college.” Now an entity of more than \$9 million in assets with an endowment of more than \$6 million, the Foundation started small. “It ran around \$100,000 or less for its first 20 years or so,” says Dean Hancox, a retired teacher and school administrator whose FSU links include his father, who was one of the local corporate leaders who lobbied Annapolis in the 1940s to keep the college open. “It was pretty much a fledgling thing when it first got started,” says Hancox, who joined the board of directors in 1976. “The assets have grown tremendously in the last few years.” That started when the Foundation was restructured in 1991 and it was able to take advantage of the State of Maryland’s Private Donation Incentive Program, which offered matching funds for monies raised privately. “We were talking about a lot less money in those days. When they started talking about millions of dollars, we thought they were whistling Dixie,” Poland says. “I was surprised we could achieve what our lofty goals were, but you don’t get any more than you shoot for.” Early on, the President’s Associates Club, designed to recognize those who donate \$250 or more, also had a social function. Gatherings were offered before plays, concerts and speakers, events often sponsored by the Foundation. President’s Associates gatherings had the additional advantage of helping to get more people involved in the Foundation board, MacVeigh says. “The more active the Foundation became, the more people became aware that Frostburg existed

“A lot of these young people wouldn’t have gotten their education without help from the Foundation.”

—Dr. Jim Poland, FSU Foundation Board

and that, yes, they could help,” she says. From a handful of people in the 1970s to 42 today, the Foundation board has always tried to represent a cross-section of the community. “That’s pretty much how it’s supposed to be,” Hancox says. “That made for good communication with the larger community,” Sanner says. “I do think the Foundation has done a lot for the school. It has brought the community and the school together,” MacVeigh says.

—LDM



Memorial Pays Tribute to Alumni

One of the first sights that meet the eyes of those parking near Frostburg State University’s Performing Arts Center is a group of three walls located in a small park area. Known collectively as the Memorial Wall, they were erected to honor and memorialize faculty, staff, students and friends of the University.

The three wedge-shaped walls maintain a low profile, with faces appropriately composed in FSU red and black granite aggregate. Names approximately one-inch in size are etched in a horizontal series of panels on both sides of the walls and may include a year of graduation, attendance or employment. Each panel contains two columns with approximately 10 names in each. A contribution of \$500 is required for each name. Proceeds go toward beautifying the campus with flowers, landscaping and benches. Listed among the names on the Memorial Wall is a close-knit group of eight graduates from the 1960s whose memories have been honored by Ned Boehm (Class of ‘64). A member of the FSU Foundation Board and an Alumni Achievement Award recipient, he is now president of Keystone Col-



The Memorial Wall is located adjacent to the FSU Performing Arts Center.

lege in La Plume, Pa. “Frostburg changed all our lives,” he says. “There was a family atmosphere on campus. Whatever our backgrounds, we were all the same for a while. For many of us, our happiest years were at Frostburg.” Seven of the eight grads were members of Tau Kappa Epsilon, a fraternity formerly active on the Frostburg campus. Every year, the “Teeks” participated in their national fraternity’s Public Service Weekend to promote town-gown harmony. Before coming to Frostburg, R. Fulton Davis (Class of ‘63) of Wheaton, and Boehm were classmates at Wheaton High School. “He had an infectious laugh that could be heard all over campus,” Boehm says of Davis, who graduated from FSC with a degree in secondary education. David C. Soppa (Class of ‘63) came to Frostburg from the Washington area for a degree in secondary education. As a graduate of Oxon Hill High School, he and a buddy enjoyed a friendly rivalry of Prince Georges County versus Montgomery County with Boehm and Davis. “He was smart enough to have a good time,” Boehm says of Soppa, whom he recalls as witty and self-confident. Robert “Bobby” Stanley Weimer (Class of ‘64), a secondary social studies major from Garrett County, “listened loudly,” according to Boehm. “He was mature and thoughtful.” Thomas Trenton Dubel (Class of ‘64) majored in secondary history. Boehm recalls him as a sharp dresser who “made you laugh before you realized it.” H. Douglas Martin (Class of

’66) died while serving as a lieutenant in the Vietnam War. Boehm describes him as a “quiet hero who was fun to be around and made you feel important.” The pair used to joke about getting convertibles after graduation. Boehm remembers Baltimore native Robert L. Heubeck (Class of ’66) as “mature intellectually and emotionally, with a good sense of humor.” Gifted in math, K. William Miller (Class of ’65) was “academically inclined and analytical,” according to Boehm. “He was competitive when it came to math.” Cumberland native William Joseph Hay (Class of ’63) graduated with a degree in secondary education. “He was a daredevil who liked to live on the edge,” says Boehm, “but he had the cleanest room in Allen Hall.” The sole “non-Teek,” James A. Graham (Class of ’63), belonged to Sigma Tau Gamma. After earning a degree in secondary education, he went to Vietnam. For his service there, he was awarded a Congressional Medal of Honor Citation. “He had a tremendous sense of life,” recalls Boehm, who was struck by a “gentle radiance” he attributes to Graham’s religious convictions. “It was the Camelot era, and we wanted to make a difference in life,” Boehm says of his friends. “We were all protected by time and space from the reality of the world outside. It was a magical time.” He likes to think of his classmates reunited in spirit at Frostburg. “They’ll always be remembered at a place that meant so much to them,” he says.

—Sara Mullins

For more information or to place a name on FSU’s Memorial Wall, contact Jack Aylor, FSU director of development and executive director of the FSU Foundation, Inc., at 301/ 687-4161 or at jaylor@frostburg.edu.



"Yes, Dear" cast members have fun with their success.

"Yes, Dear" Renewed for Third Full Year

"Yes, Dear," the CBS sitcom created by FSU alumnus **Gregory Garcia** (Class of '92), has been picked up for a full season by the network. Last year, the show regularly finished in the top 20 of weekly rated programs.

In addition to featuring the character of "Jimmy" who has fictional ties to FSU and often wears Frostburg T-shirts and hats, Garcia has also made cameo appearances on the show, playing a candy counter worker and a golfer in the episode where Jimmy gets a part-time job retrieving lost golf balls.

In another episode entitled "Dances with Couch," it was revealed that one of show's children had a teacher named "Miss Tyra Phipps." Phipps, who is an FSU alumna (Class of '72) and a professor in FSU's Mass Communication Department, served as Garcia's advisor during his years at Frostburg.

Phipps was touched by the tribute and Garcia's suggestion that she should do a guest spot on the show.

"It may not be long before I make a cameo appearance on prime time television," Phipps jokes. "'Yes Dear' will never be the same."

"Yes, Dear" will continue to air at 8:30 p.m., Monday nights on CBS. Check your local listings.

The Joy of Pepsi (and FSU!)

Many of you who tuned into this year's Super Bowl and watched the premiere of the Britney Spears' Pepsi Ad (you know the one, where she wiggles her way through five generations) were actually catching a glimpse of an FSU alumnus as well.

Matt Merchant (Class of '95) is one of the "clean-cut, sweater-wearing fellas" in the swell '50's segment of the famed spot. While Miss Spears is singing the Joys of Pepsi, Matt and two other snappy guys croon in harmony.

The commercial took a day to shoot and was

directed by Joe Pytko who also directed the movie "Space Jam."

"What you see [on screen] was actually done in one take. The director zoomed in on us and we did our bit and he said, 'That was awfully good,' as if to say we were so awfully cheesy," says Merchant. "It was a great day and Britney was really nice."

When he's not rubbing elbows with pop stars and or sipping soda pop, Merchant performs on cruise ships and acts in regional theatre productions in Los Angeles.



Matt Merchant (Class of '95), right, is "bubbly" in soda ad.

Teacher's Last Day Featured in *The Sun*

The last day of work for **Cindy Compton** (Class of '71) was chronicled in a feature story in June 6 edition of *The Baltimore Sun*. She taught first grade at Mt. Airy Elementary School for 31 years.

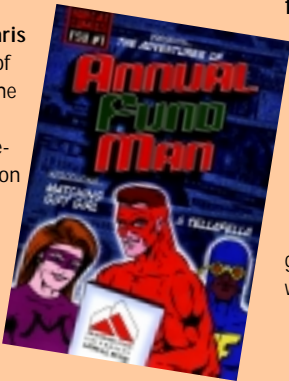
On her final day, Compton's friends sent a white stretch limousine to take her to school and greeted her with a gold paper crown, cheers, tears and well wishes for the future.

She joked to *The Sun* that she has "more than 800 children" but has never been married. "Now maybe I'll have the time," she added.

"It's a Bird. It's a Plane. It's a..... Major Award!"

A comic book sent to FSU alumni has yielded record donations and an award from the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE).

Conceived by **Chris Harmon**, director of Annual Giving in the FSU's Division of University Advancement, the comic won a bronze award in the 2001 CASE District II Accolades



Program's Fundraising Publications category. The award was one of nine made from a total of 90 entries.

Starring "Annual Fund Man," "Tellafella" and "Matching Gift Girl," the eight-page comic yielded an additional \$20,000 raised beyond the \$40,000 goal.

The comic's whimsical approach has attracted attention from two publications. The July/August 2001 issue of *Currents* magazine, published by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, features the story, "A Real Advancement Hero," and the comic will be mentioned in a coming edition of the *Successful Fundraising Newsletter*.

Student Business Group Takes Home the Gold

At the annual conference of the Society for Advancement of Management (S.A.M.) held in McLean, Va., FSU's S.A.M. chapter won second place nationally in the undergraduate division in the National Case Competition at the conference.

The FSU students represented at the conference were Jeff Anderson of Valley Lee, Md., Jennifer Erin Shaffer of Oakland, Md., Elizabeth Brant of Ridgeley, W.Va., and Ryan Rinker of Columbia, Md.

In addition, Anderson received the Outstanding Student Award, one of only 15 awarded at the national conference. Anderson, who is president of FSU's S.A.M. student chapter, also received a Regional Outstanding Student Award. Shaffer, vice president of the FSU chapter, also won a Regional Outstanding Student Award.

FSU professor Amit Shah was awarded the S.A.M. Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award for 2001-2002 at the conference.

The case competition follows the business policy-type case analysis. Twenty-five teams from universities across the nation competed at the conference.

Alumna Recounts Adoption Story for *Rosie*

Jessica (Lytle) Farley's (Class of '94) story about giving her baby up for adoption seven years ago is featured in the August, 2002, issue of *Rosie Magazine*. Farley recounts her difficult choice and how, after starting her own family, she stands by her decision.

For more information or to find out how to get back issues of *Rosie*, visit www.rosiemagazine.com or call 212/499-1722.

"Late Night" with Joanna Wheeler

Student completes "Letterman" Internship

By Liz Douglas Medcalf

Joanna Wheeler has a lot more than "Top Ten Reasons" why she enjoyed interning for the "Late Show with David Letterman."

The 2002 grad and Allegany County native has learned plenty about what it takes to put on a nightly comedy-variety show. She knows how busy a show's research department is; she knows how professional the staff has to be. After working last fall on the CBS show, she has learned a lot about television overall.

But don't ask her what Dave's really like. She didn't actually meet him. Few interns do, she said.

Wheeler, a Mass Communication major focusing on video production, landed the coveted "Late Show" internship almost by accident. She wanted to intern with the production staff of "Dawson's Creek," the young adult drama on the WB network that films in North Carolina. For a class assignment on writing a cover letter, the 1997 Allegany High School graduate searched for an internship ad for "Dawson's Creek" but found the "Late Show" instead. "I did so much work on it that I went ahead and sent it," Wheeler said.

She was stunned when she received an e-mail asking her to come to New York for an interview, and Joanna was even more stunned to learn she had gotten the job.

"It all worked out. I really love New York," she said.

She loves it even though she was there on the city's darkest day, for the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

"I was actually getting ready to walk out the door to go to work when the attack came. They shut



Joanna Wheeler in Midtown Manhattan.

down the subway, and we couldn't get there." She was living in a house in Queens that she rented with three other "Late Show" interns.

Four of the 19 "Late Show" interns last fall decided New York was too dangerous a place to stay and left after the attacks. For those who stayed, there was plenty to do and learn. Interns worked in the talent department (guests), audience development (tickets), music, mail, production, writing, research and as "floaters." They ran errands, made copies, filed,

helped in their departments and occasionally got Dave's lunch.

Wheeler worked in the research department – which started with three interns, but ended with two, so she was even busier. Daily tasks included doing "Gossip," clipping articles about celebrities from newspapers for distribution among the staff and potentially to use if one of those celebrities ends

up as a guest on the show.

Often the research department has to scramble to find information to fulfill one of Dave's creative and humorous whims. One major obsession for much of last fall was to be a guest on Oprah Winfrey's show,

and he recorded his efforts in his nightly "Oprah Log."

Once, about an hour and a half before showtime, Wheeler was given the task of searching the list of "Oprah" transcripts available for order on the Internet. She was ordered to find out everyone who had been a guest on "Oprah" more than once. She was still collecting names as the show started, so any names she picked up during the show before the Oprah Log bit were rushed to the studio to be added to Dave's list.

She also made it on the air – if



David Letterman of CBS TV's "Late Show."

you looked fast. One of her bosses, research assistant Christopher

Moloney, was a plant in the audience for a skit. Interns were placed at the ends of the rows as "buffers." She was one.

Although she hasn't learned as much as she'd like about the production side of a show – that's her career

goal – she has learned that it takes a lot more work than it might appear to put together a daily comedy-variety show.

While occasionally hectic, work on "The Late Show" is not as intense as might be anticipated. "It's a very laid-back atmosphere, but very professional. It's not what I expected," Wheeler said.

"It's a big deal to be an intern," she said. The vast majority of the current staff were once Letterman interns. "They say your chances are good if you apply." Joanna was one of only three interns asked to come back to train the next class.

"It [going back] was a lot of fun, but I was sad to leave everyone even more the second time," she said.

Right now she's not sure she wants to work on a daily show. Joanna graduated from FSU in May, and she'll be exploring some possibilities in the 13-month film program she has decided to pursue at Full Sail "Real World Education," an arts and technology school in Winter Park, Fla., starting in September.

So while she's never met Dave – and never got him lunch – she has learned a lot from him.



Student Angela Perry performs "service with a smile."

Giving Others "a Break"

Students Trade Sun and Sand for Service Project

By Sara Mullins

While many of their classmates were basking on the beach, skiing or otherwise resting their weary minds during Spring Break, four Frostburg State University students chose to spend their free time with the older generation in Washington, D.C., as part of the Break Away program – scraping paint, grooving to classic jazz and even playing a little five-card stud.

Break Away: the Alternative Break Connection is a national, non-profit organization that promotes service through break-oriented programs for college students that immerses them in different cultures or settings, heightens their social awareness and exposes them to the possibility of life-long social action.

FSU students Jenica Braxton, Angela Perry, Lee Jarrett and Rashaad Thomas, and their advisor, Rebecca Anderson of FSU's Center for Volunteerism and National Service, didn't quite know what to expect when they traveled from Frostburg to the Lisner-Louise-Dickson-Hurt Home, a not-for-profit assisted living and nursing facility serving the indigent elderly of the District of Columbia.

The trip was made possible with

months of planning by the Home's administrator, FSU alumnus Ward Orem (Class of '75) and Cherie Krug, director of FSU's Center for Volunteerism and National Programs. A member of FSU's Alumni Board, Orem was impressed with a presentation Krug gave on the Center's programs during the Board's fall retreat. When he discovered that the Center needed a new site for its alternative spring break program, he was quick to suggest the Home as a replacement.

Orem was pleased with the outcome. "As a Baby Boomer and health care professional, it

was extremely valuable to spend time with the students," he said. "This experience has assured me that our future is in good hands. There is little doubt that these young adults exemplify the caring and compassionate people in whom my generation will entrust the world and our care as senior citizens."

The FSU group arrived at the Home on Monday, March 25, ready to paint several areas in the home and participate in activities with the residents. After a working lunch, they attended an orientation and toured the facility. Later that afternoon, the sounds of Billie Holiday, Ella Fitzgerald, Al Hibbler and more contemporary musicians provided a background welcoming the students as they became acquainted with the residents. The students then retreated to their home-away-from-home, the Hostel International, for some sleep after a long day.

By the next day, the students were busy painting the solarium. At lunch, they enjoyed pizza with the residents, seasoned with lively conversation and discussion on various issues. That evening, the Home's staff treated the students to dinner in Georgetown and music by Cowboy Mouth and Better than Ezra at D.C.'s 9:30 Club.

On Wednesday, the solarium painting was completed and work began on the accompanying breezeway. A Caribbean lunch, courtesy of the residents, featured curried goat and jerk chicken, was served to the tunes of reggae by Bob Marley.

Jarrett and Thomas were invited to join some of the resident card sharks at poker and soon discovered how fast change can disappear. For Thomas, a freshman member of FSU's Allen HallSTARS! Program who had never before played



FSU students who participated in the Alternative Break included (left to right) Angela Perry, Rashaad Thomas, Jenica Braxton and Lee Jarrett. Rebecca Anderson of FSU's Center for Volunteerism and National Service and FSU alumnus Ward Orem (Class of '75) pose with the students.

poker, the experience was an eye-opener. "I enjoyed hearing them fight and bicker," he said of the players as they threw their pocket change and cards on the table.

Meanwhile, Braxton and Perry honed their egg-decorating skills during the annual Easter egg coloring event and joined the other egg artists in eating as many eggs as they col-

ored. After a steak and chicken dinner at the Home, the students left for another night at the hostel.

Thursday brought the painting projects to a conclusion, much to the delight and appreciation of the residents and staff of the Home. They joined with the students to celebrate a Passover Seder conducted by a member of the staff. That evening, the students and several staff members enjoyed the tastes, sights and sounds of Old Town Alexandria with an Italian dinner, a play by the Improv Comedy Club at the Old Town Theater, sight-seeing and dessert with coffee for the grand finale.

The week came to a close on Friday with a breakfast buffet in the freshly painted Solarium, where the students, advisor and staff shared thoughts about an experience all agreed had offered opportunities for exchange and growth. The students shared their career plans with the staff, and where possible, appropriate referrals were planned. The group then took photos, exchanged addresses and made plans to meet again.

For Thomas, the experience "changed my attitude toward senior citizens. They were full of energy."

A resident of Prince George's County, he planned a summer visit to the Home. "I can't wait to go back," he said. "The staff treated us like kings and queens. They couldn't have treated us any better. I hope I'll see the same faces."

For Anderson, this particular advising assignment was "awesome – one of the best experiences I've had this year. I'd do it again."

"I was really impressed with the students and how well they adapted," she said. "They didn't hesitate, but just jumped in. They became a team. It was exciting for me to see that happen."

The residents apparently enjoyed the students, each in his or her unique way. Lizzie Bingham said, "The painting job was nice. They were very polite people. They always spoke to everyone with a smile on their faces." Catherine Campbell commented, "They helped me color pretty Easter eggs." Austin North said, "Poker club was great. I'm glad I played better than they did."

With plans to make this Break Away experience an annual event for FSU student, next year, Mr. North's luck just might change.

University Honored for Programs

FSU has been honored as a national model for civic and community service programs by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) as part of its Public Engagement Project. FSU was one of only six institutions selected nationally as a high performer in public engagement activities from a possible 400 AASCU colleges and universities.

"It was an honor to be chosen. We always enjoy sharing the impact our national service, service-learning and student volunteerism programs have in our community," said Cherie Krug, director of FSU's Center for Volunteerism and National Programs/AmeriCorps.

As part of its Public Engagement Project, AASCU hired the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) of Boulder, Colo., to determine the best practices of public engagement among member institutions. Consultants at NCHEMS considered such factors as the use of applied research for regional development, financial and other support for faculty and staff engaged in facilitating service-learning activities,

FSU Service Fact:

In 2001-2002, FSU students performed **42,353 hours of service** — a 6 percent increase from the previous year.



Alumni Service — Members of the FSU Alumni Association Board of Directors participated in a service project, cleaning the University's arboretum, during their Annual Strategic Planning Retreat on April 27.

interdisciplinary course offerings related to community service and strong institutional support.

"The data will be used to describe a prototype institution for public engagement and will be included in a final report to the Kellogg Foundation," said Maurice Williams, AASCU's program manager for public engagement and economic outreach. "Public engagement has long been a core value of AASCU institutions."

Paula R. Schild, a research assistant from NCHEMS, performed site visits to FSU, Arizona State University West, Kennesaw State University, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, Northern Kentucky University and the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs.

At FSU, Schild was impressed by FSU President Dr. Catherine Gira's personal commitment to community service.

"Support from the top is so important," she said. "She made it happen by facilitating the necessary bureaucratic policies and procedures."

Schild also noted the enthusiasm and engagement of the University community as a whole in creating, maintaining and expanding service-learning activities at FSU. She cited the Allen HallSTARS! learning community experience as a model, with its problem-based, multidisciplinary approach to service learning, as well as FSU's AmeriCorps, Center for Volunteerism and the new Volunteer Center located at the County United Way offices in Cumberland.



The Sounds of Science

Plitnik Receives Research Award from Board of Regents

by Liz Douglas Medcalf

The first time George Plitnik saw a pipe organ, he was only 4 or 5, and the organ was one of the grandest around, the Mighty Wurlitzer at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. It had four manuals, or keyboards, and 250 stops to make as many different sounds. The organist's fingers and feet flew, and his head bobbed along with the music. "I thought the organist was playing with everything, his hands, feet and head," Plitnik says years later.

It wasn't a straight line from there to the FSU physics professor's recent award from the University System of Maryland Board of Regents for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity for his years of study into acoustics and musical instruments. However, the seeds were planted.

It was more a fondness for gadgets than music that re-introduced Plitnik to organs in ninth grade, even though he had started piano lessons the year before. A Baptist church he attended near his New Jersey home had an old pipe organ, transplanted from a nearby theatre in the 1940s. It was much smaller than the Mighty Wurlitzer, but it still had stops to create different sounds, such as violin, cello and flute, and spaces for others such as drums and whistles that had been removed, since they wouldn't be appropriate for a church. The church organist, noting his interest and looking for someone to fill in on occasion, offered Plitnik free lessons if he would play for services when she could not. Likewise, the minister, who also liked to tinker with mechanical things, joined with Plitnik in trying to figure out how the 1920s-era organ worked and to repair it when needed.

In his last year of high school, Plitnik studied physics with only mild interest until the class took up the physics of sound. Then he took interest in applying what he was learning in school to the organ pipes he was fiddling with on his time off. He still has the organ pipes he built in high school.

"They work reasonably well, considering

that I built them from scraps of material found around the house," such as one pipe part made from a broomstick, he says.

An astute guidance counselor recognized Plitnik's interest in sound and encouraged him to study physics in college. At Lebanon Valley College in Pennsylvania, he found a strong program in both physics and music, so he could major in physics while continuing organ lessons. The quality of the program and the small classes piqued his interest in other areas of physics, he says.

"I decided to go to graduate school. I enjoyed learning and I liked the academic environment, so I decided to prepare for a career of college teaching," Plitnik says.

He earned his master's degree at Wake Forest University, where he first got into research in solid-state physics. But his interest in acoustics lingered, so when it came time to get his doctorate, he found a program in the acoustics of musical instruments, one of very few nationally, at Brigham Young University. All this time, he continued to play and study the organ, eventually racking up about 10 years of classical organ lessons.

At the end of his graduate studies in 1970, Plitnik packed nearly everything he owned into a U-haul and headed to Frostburg State to take a teaching position. One thing he didn't pack was the old theatre organ he had bought a few years before from the church of his youth, which had decided to replace it with a modern,

electronic organ, or, in Plitnik's words, "a fake organ." That acquisition came out of its place in storage in a New Jersey barn a couple of years later when Plitnik bought a house in nearby Mount Savage, Md.

He slowly reassembled the old theatre piece in his basement, teaching himself how to repair it and to construct some replacement parts, which were no longer available. He used that expertise during summers over the next decade repairing pipe organs for churches.

Plitnik's 32 years at Frostburg led him in a variety of research directions, but he keeps coming back to musical instruments – and travel.

His international interests began in 1985, with a sabbatical at the Laboratoire d'Acoustique in LeMans, France, to study musical acoustics. The contacts he made in LeMans allowed for return visits when he analyzed french horn mouthpieces as part of his research with the Lawson French Horn Company in Boonsboro, Md. They studied how changes in the mouthpiece can affect sound quality and how certain physical characteristics affect the musician's perception of the instrument. He and Bruce Lawson, of the Boonsboro company, published a paper on that research in 1999 in the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America*.



Dr. George Plitnik receives the USM Faculty Award for Excellence in Research from Dr. Catherine Gira, FSU president; Dr. Nathan A. Chapman, Jr., chairman of the USM Board of Regents; and Dr. Donald Langenberg, former chancellor of the USM System.

He longed to go to Asia, and in 1991 he secured a one-year sabbatical in Japan that stretched into a second year. Collaborating with a Japanese researcher, he began studying clarinet reeds, but his lifelong interest led him to redirect his study to the reeds in pipe organs, a much simpler acoustical system, once he returned to Frostburg. It was a wide-open field.

"While organ flue pipes have been widely studied, particularly in the last several decades, a



Plitnik tests out the new organ console at his home, donned in appropriate formal attire.

comprehensive analysis of reed pipes was virgin territory begging to be explored," he says. A literature search going back more than 200 years found only a handful of papers on the topic, and most were incomplete or inaccurate.

After returning from Japan in 1993, Plitnik recruited several FSU physics students over the next five years to study the physical mechanism of pipe organ reed oscillation. A paper detailing that research was published in the *Journal of the Acoustical Society of America* in 2000.

He continued his study in organs, including a sabbatical at the Fraunhofer Institut für Bauphysik in Germany in 1999, researching a new aspect of organ reeds — how the curvature affects tone — with Hungarian researcher Judith Angster. That research, which has yet to be published, had a side benefit. Plitnik accom-



Plitnik poses with one of his more whimsical pipe creations.

panied Angster to Hungary to do research. There he was able to interview Angster's father, who had owned a pipe organ factory there before the Soviets invaded and imprisoned him as a capitalist. Plitnik questioned him about the three generations of experience in pipe or-

gans his family business represented, researched the history of the Angster Organ Company and wrote about it for the International Society of Organ Builders Journal in 1999.

He is continuing his work studying organ reeds with a physics honors student who later joined him in presenting an invited paper on his research at the 17th International Conference on Acoustics in Rome in September of 2001.

Early in his Frostburg State career, Plitnik wrote a textbook with his advisor from Brigham Young, William Strong, to use in the course Descriptive Acoustics, the physics of musical instruments and speech. Strong taught a similar class at BYU. The book, called *Music, Speech, Audio*, is its third edition. Now he's working on an advanced textbook on acoustics, with materials he has used over the years for his senior-level classes.

He has other academic interests, as well. Along with English professor Dr. Paul LaChance, Plitnik is examining the relationship between science and spirituality. He is also trying to create an agreement with a university in the Ukraine, which has quality equipment and knowledgeable scientists, to collaborate on a study of high temperature superconductivity.

In addition, there are Plitnik's personal interests. He hopes to travel more, visiting other

countries long enough to get to know the people. He plans to finish his home, which he has been expanding and renovating since he moved there in 1972. Plus, there are the pipe organs, from the first old theatre organ he rescued to the innumerable pieces and parts of various pipe organs he has picked up over the years. From those, an impressive pipe organ has been growing in his home, with pipes, sound effects and assorted parts salvaged from a number of sources over the years.

Plitnik credits the way these research interests came together in recent years, allowing him to publish papers on topics he had been researching throughout his career, with attracting the recognition he has received recently, including the FSU Faculty Achievement Award in 2000 for research and the 2002 Regents Award.

In granting Dr. Plitnik the Award for Excellence in Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity, the Regents said, "Plitnik's research, related to musical instrumentation, has influenced the design and manufacture of French horns currently used by various symphonic groups. His research, published in encyclopedia articles and peer-reviewed journals, has earned

"[Plitnik's] research, published in encyclopedia articles and peer-reviewed journals, has earned him the respect of his peers worldwide."

— USM Board of Regents

him the respect of his peers worldwide. Plitnik has also given students the opportunity to participate in his scholarship. In fact, a Frostburg honors student co-presented research on pipe-organ reeds with Plitnik during an international conference in Rome."

This year, the Regents recognized 14 faculty members from institutions across the USM for their outstanding contributions. Each recipient received \$1,000 and a plaque of recognition.

"I'm gratified to receive the honor, even though it took me 32 years to get to this point," Plitnik says.

"Musical acoustics is a great field to work in. The problems are challenging enough to be interesting, but not so difficult as to be intractable. The researchers working in this field are still doing physics pretty much as it was done in the past – working individually within low budgets and using unsophisticated equipment."

The Thursday Night Writing Group:

a way with words

by Liz Douglas Medcalf

It started mostly as just people who loved to write poetry, but over the years it has also become The Little Writing Group that Could.

Fewer than a dozen people meet, generally, every other Thursday, most often at the home of Frostburg State University English professor Barb Hurd, in the woods near Finzel, a few miles west of Frostburg.

There they put each other's writing to the test, and they are hard taskmasters. Five teach or have taught at FSU, one is a writing teacher at Garrett College. Others have studied, worked or spoken at FSU. Three have published critically acclaimed books; most have published poetry, their successes growing as the years pass. All are unwaveringly dedicated to their art – and one another.

Why does it work?



Chapter One...

About 16 years ago, three friends who wrote poetry started reading poems to one another, critiquing the work. They were two Frostburg State University English professors, Doug DeMars and Barbara Hurd, and a 35-year-old student, Karen Zealand.

"We would lie over Doug's four poster bed and critique piles of poems," Karen says.

The group stayed at no more than five for a long time, but gradually, and no one seems to remember when, others were invited in.

"People stayed who got out of it what they needed," Barb says. If they needed praise and applause, this was not the place they would get it.

"The reason the group works is that everyone trusts that the work is what we're coming for, not each other's egos," Barb says. "The amazing thing is we're all friends, considering how honest the discussions are."

But another member says it's the other way around: "It's because these people are my friends that I know I'm going to get the truth," says Jack DuBose, Garrett College's Writing Center coordinator.

The writing group's evening starts rather normally: A group of friends, chatting on Barb's deck about light topics. Brad Barkley, another FSU professor and a fiction writer, brings a new product, cold brew iced tea, which he makes in a water bottle. That's good for about five minutes of conversation. They talk about cars, cigarettes and why they're so addictive, shoes. Karen lights a cigarette. "I'm a writing group smoker. This is the only time I smoke," she says.

They move inside and get down to business at about 7:45 p.m., and the conversation becomes much more substantive and focused. The group has no leader or facilitator, but there's a firm discipline beneath the camaraderie and wine nonetheless.

They start out with an essay from Barb, one for her upcoming book on caves. Like her previous collection of essays on swamps, this piece is about much more than caves, and that drives much of the discussion.

"We tend to do prose earlier," Barb says. "We like to be more sober."

The group received the essay beforehand,

and most brought their copies with notes already penned in the margins. Barb is planted on a beach chair in the middle of the room. The rest are arrayed on sofas, chairs and the hearth.

"I don't like the first paragraph," Keith Schlegel says. He's the chairman of FSU's English Department.

"I like the first paragraph," Karen counters.

Keith: "But I like the ending."

Karen: "That's the part I didn't like."

They're off to a good start.

Barb was expecting trouble with this one. She sent out this essay too early, she says, and it still had major problems. "This one will be bumpier than most."

"The reason the group works is that everyone trusts that the work is what we're coming for, not each other's egos."

Meet the Writers

Barb Hurd is one of the originals, and the one credited most by the others with bringing in new members. She is an FSU English professor, a poet and the author of *Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Bogs and Human Imagination*, a book of essays chosen among the Best Books of 2001 by the Los Angeles Times. Barb previously published one volume of her poems, *Objects in This Mirror*. She is at work on a second group of essays, this time on caves, called *Three Sources of Light*. Houghton-Mifflin is planning to publish it.

"That group is my family in many ways," Barb says. "There is a strong sense of supporting each other, a sense of commitment. We're committed to each other's work; we like one another; we enjoy talking to one another."



Hurd

Karen Zealand, another founder, is a poet and a counselor, part of Zealand Psychological Associates in Cumberland. She earned a master's degree in English and a master's degree in counseling, but didn't write seriously until she was 35. She calls writing her reaction to a mid-life crisis. "I had just gotten my first full-time job and found out I was pregnant. All at once I was home full-time trying to decide what to do with myself." She took a writing class with the late FSU professor Doug DeMars, the third of the three group founders, and he encouraged her to continue. Since then, she's published dozens of poems in national journals, and 10 times has been a finalist in national competitions in which the winner gets a book published.

She and Maggie Smith, another member, speak to Barb's poetry class every semester. "It's extremely motivating for students to see a regular person as a poet," she says.

She hasn't ventured into other types of writing. "I'm monogamously wedded to poetry," she says.



Zealand

Keith Schlegel, chair of the FSU English Department, considers himself more of a critic than a writer. He has belonged to the group for about 12 years, but he says he attends irregularly, because his other interests and duties intervene. He generally writes thickly layered prose poems, and has gotten a few published. "My impact is



Schlegel

Jack DuBose was asked to join the group in 1996, after he and Barb took a writer's workshop together. The coordinator of the Writing Center at nearby Garrett College, Jack's connection to FSU began when he was a student here in the mid-70s. He finished elsewhere, but returned to Frostburg for an MBA in 1989.

Jack has a handful of poems published in small journals, but he says he's much more of a teacher. "I always had it in mind that I would write. At this point, I'm moving toward that."

When asked if he had been in another writers group, he says, "No, thank God. This experience has been a very, very positive one for me." While he doesn't take every critique to heart, "you take what you can use. You have to trust your own 'writerly' judgement."

Michael Hughes is a poet who teaches mentally impaired students at Hampshire High School. He joined the group about six years ago while he was working at FSU as an interpreter for the deaf. He picked up Barb's book of poetry at Main Street Books in Frostburg and was intrigued. When he realized she taught at FSU, he made a point of striking up a conversation, and she invited him to the group.

Nowadays he drives an hour and 15 minutes each way from Romney, W.Va., to come to the group. He

leaves after work, then returns home about midnight, only to get up the next morning and teach. "Thursdays can be long," he says.

Susan Allen, who writes poetry and fiction both, has been a member of the group almost

since its earliest days of fewer than half a dozen people, joining soon after she moved here in 1986 with her husband, Philip, former dean of the School of Arts and Humanities and current coordinator of the Liberal Studies program. She has also taught in the FSU English Department on and off over the years.

"I'm a traveler, so I'm in and out of the group," she says. She often gone for a month to a year at a time, heading for places such as Ireland, Madagascar, Florida and Paris. "They've always welcomed me back," she says.

academic. I teach poetry academically, the history of poetry, its influences," he says.

"There's a lot of discipline in this group. That doesn't describe me," Keith says.

This is not the place for first drafts. Most wait until the piece is fairly well honed before they unleash this group on it.

"I don't bring a poem to the group when I'm not sure exactly where it is, when it's still in the inspiration part," says Michael Hughes, a teacher from West Virginia. "You don't want anyone to tell you what you have. It might ruin the inspiration you're trying to follow."

But once they do know what they have, improvements still can be made.

"I'll take something that I think is pretty much there, but inevitably the quality of the feedback takes it up a notch or two. I seldom submit something [for publication] without taking it to the group," Karen says.

The group is particularly hard on clichéd writing, says Susan Allen, an early group member and occasional member of the FSU English faculty. "That's always a sign we haven't worked hard enough. We've all been nailed on it."

Sometimes, the group's input can keep a longer piece from heading too far in the wrong direction.

Mary Edgerly, an FSU librarian, took in the first chapter of a novel months ago. Even though they "shredded" it, she says, she got enough positive feedback that she wanted to go on.

"They felt the character was self-pitying," Mary says. "...I was setting it up that she would overcome that, but their thinking was that, with the first chapter, they didn't want to keep reading."

She's grateful for the input, as harsh as it was. "When you write, you're so much in your own little world. I could have written the whole book that way."

The current effort of Bruce Jacobs, a professional writer who travels from Baltimore to participate in the group, is what he calls a "weird, experiential memoir." He joined the group specifically for its guidance on this book. "I thought it would be good for me.

This is the most intensely sustained personal writing I've done. There are a whole lot of ways I could do it wrong," he says.

Constructive Criticism

The essay on the floor recounts Barb's visit to the temple-cave of Elephanta in India, to a shrine to the Hindu god, Shiva, at the center of which is a waist-high stone phallus of a large god. The essay flows back and forth through descriptions of the carv-



ings in the cave, the structure of the cave, a secret her father refused to tell, some history, sexuality, phallus worship, the deaths and impending deaths of loved ones and her relationship with her fiancé.

Keith suggests moving the first paragraph, which describes the phallus, to the fifth paragraph. Brad and Karen ask what the new first paragraph would be, then, since the second paragraph wouldn't work. Is there a problem with starting out an essay with a phallus?

Others ask about a sari-clad worshipper whom Barb describes in the first paragraph, but who disappears for several pages. "It feels abrupt," Bruce says. The group discusses what they think the woman's purpose is, what they expect of her. They were expecting her to do something she didn't do.

Mary questions the emphasis on the phallus, and wonders if its an avoidance of something else. The previous essays that Barb has brought to them from this book each had a central metaphor.

"Is this about sex or not?" Mary asks.

The group then goes on to discuss other sexual references in the work. They range from Hindu mythology to a men's health magazine's list of 34 favorite places to have sex. One is in a cave. The discussion bounces between clinical decisions on whether these elements belong in the essay, to jokes about what sex in a cave would be like.

At one point, Barb interjects, "Can I say something?"

"No," they chorus.

The group has a rule, common to many writers' groups. The author can't speak while

the piece is being discussed. "The impulse is to defend and explain and be more than you are on the page," Barb says.

"It's torture," says Mary about having to keep quiet. "I'm famous for blurting something out. It's very hard for me to keep my mouth shut."

There's also a rule against "non-verbals," as Maggie Smith, a poet and long-time member, calls them. Gestures. Faces. It's a rule Barb breaks a couple of times, grimacing once or twice and once rolling her eyes.

Maggie has advice for holding back: "You have to separate yourself from the work, get more objective about it." Regardless, "I'm famous for breaking that rule," she adds.

Instead, they let Barb ask a question. She asks about the effect of dropping the 34 places to have sex.

"The question this raises is, what is the focus?" Karen says. Her favorite part is the section about Barb's father and the secrets he took to his grave. Within that praise comes a critique of words and images that don't fit the sense of peace and balance she sees in the rest of the essay.

"This chapter could be about pulling in different directions," Karen says. Barb grimaces, but she takes notes furiously.

"It needs a few more connections to help us get from one idea to the other," Karen says.

"I found myself thinking about 'Ode on a Grecian Urn' over and over again," Keith says. He starts to recite the John Keats poem from memory.

Others bring in more elements that they felt didn't fit, or they just didn't like.

"This chapter felt too static to me. It didn't have the narrative arc of the other chapters," Brad says.

"But I was ... can I talk?" Barb asks.

"No," they all say.

"You need that narrative arc or the essay just turns into a talking head," Brad continues.

Karen points out that Barb's other essays "traveled" more. This seems to stay in one place.

"How will this fit into the book? This isn't about caves at all," Keith says.

"I went to the temple of the phallus in Mexico," Mary muses. "It was not in a cave, but it was a temple of the phallus."

"I thought that was in Las Vegas," says Brad.

They all laugh, and some of the tension eases.

It's not often that the words "brutality" and "poetry" are paired, but with this group, they are.

"We're a pretty brutal group," says Barb.

"I wouldn't say brutal. Tough maybe, not brutal," says Keith.

"Brutal's the right word," says Brad.

"The feedback can be very pointed, sometimes barbed," says Jack.

This group is not for the faint of heart. Some people come and find the criticism too blunt, and never come back.

"It's not group therapy," Barb says. "The focus is on the page."

Karen recounts one quick escape. She had been particularly hard on a poem of Barb's, telling her, "It's all rhetoric. Nothing but rhetoric."

That terrified the new person who had come prepared to read a poem, Karen says. The fresh poet refused to present her poem and never came back. "It was one of the funnier exits."

"We've always been very open to new people," Susan says, but the group is sometimes just not a good fit for the new person. They may be taken aback by the kind of criticism, or just not be comfortable.

"The ones that have come and not come back weren't chased away," Brad says. "It's a chemistry mix. They didn't connect."

"When your bubble is burst, you're pierced to the heart by comments, what keeps you coming back is these people want your work to be good," Jack says.

"It's still very nerve-racking, really, the more invested I am, the more personal, close to my heart the poem is," says Karen. "It's very daunting to do that, very exposing."

"I still have that feeling of exposing myself. Most of us in there know each other pretty well, but it's still uncomfortable." It hasn't gotten easier over the years, Karen says. "It's still as horrible."

"I'd never say that it's brutal in the sense of being devastating," says Bruce, "but maybe I haven't been devastated. It's fierce. Fiercely intense criticism, and brutally honest. But they expect you to be a grown writer who can take it."

When Barb finally speaks, she asks for suggestions on how to handle a troubling element "if I'm stubborn and want to keep it in the book." She recognizes that she is not connecting the dots the way she should.



Allen

She's been published in newspapers and has published short stories. She also created a poem cycle that was the foundation for "Appalachian Ballet," which has been performed in Scotland and Australia. She says the group helped her hone the poetry's

consistency and the voice of each character of the ballet.

The group has made her a better teacher, she says. "After listening to critiques of my own work, it made me much more sensitive to the way I give criticism and to the goals of the criticism given. I want to make the students' writing better. I know how sensitive a writer can be."

Maggie Smith got involved with the group about 13 years ago after taking a creative writing class with Joan Selby, who was aware of the group and thought belonging would be helpful to Maggie. "She knew I was serious about it."

Maggie is a poet who has been published in a number of noted poetry journals and has won an Individual Artist award from the Maryland Arts Council. She also won a special merit award for her collection of poems. Winning would have meant the manuscript would be published. She's been writing less recently because she's been attending school full-time to become a nurse.

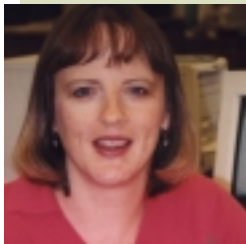
She enjoys her visits every semester to Barb's poetry class. "They want to know about the process, our process, as if it's something mysterious. This is something normal people do. We have lives and jobs and families. Just don't quit your day job," she says.

Mary Edgerly joined the group about eight years ago, just about the time she had finished her bachelor's degree at FSU. After earning two more degrees, a master's in English and a master's in library science, and raising two sons, she is back at FSU in the Ort Library.

She writes mostly fiction, but when she came into the group, it was still strictly reading poetry. Since she was so anxious to be a part of it, she

wrote poetry. She has published a few poems in literary journals, but otherwise, "I'm not very good at submitting my work. I have five short stories ready to submit, but I always feel I have to revise one more time."

Nevertheless, she has always know she wanted to be



Edgerly

a writer. “I used to dictate stories to my mom before I could write,” she says.

Brad Barkley is another FSU English professor, and the author of the novel, *Money, Love*, which was recognized by Barnes and Noble Bookseller’s Discover Great New Writers program. Brad, who came to FSU from North Carolina with a published collection of short stories under his belt, has finished a second novel, *Alison’s Automotive Manual*, which is due to be published this coming February by St. Martin’s Press, and has a contract for a second collection of stories. “That’s the third book contract since I’ve been here. The group must be helping,” he says.



Barkley

Bruce Jacobs, the newest member, has published two books, one a volume of poetry and another book, *Race Manners: Navigating the Minefield Between Black and White Americans*, which he describes as a kitchen table racial philosophy, a political/social self-help book. Bruce has known Barb for a number of years and has spoken at FSU more than once, including at the Martin Luther King Convocation in 2001.



Jacobs

He says he was invited to a picnic the group held at Keith Schlegel’s cabin. They all were sitting around, “drinking too much beer and wine.” He was sitting next to Maggie Smith, and she asked, “Want to join our group?” “I felt a cold chill go through my body. I think I said, ‘No, it’s too far.’ But I knew the minute I felt that shudder, it was something I had to pay attention to,” Bruce says. He drives from Baltimore to attend the group.

The membership of the group is fluid. Members have come and gone over the years. Some leave and come back later. Some only come occasionally. One other member isn’t quite official yet, but he will be soon. He’s another writer who came to FSU to present poetry, where he met a fellow poet, Barb Hurd. He is **Stephen Dunn**, a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet who just moved to the area. He and Hurd will marry in February. He has attended a few sessions of the group, but felt too new to comment for this story. “I got to trash one of his poems,” Keith says gleefully.

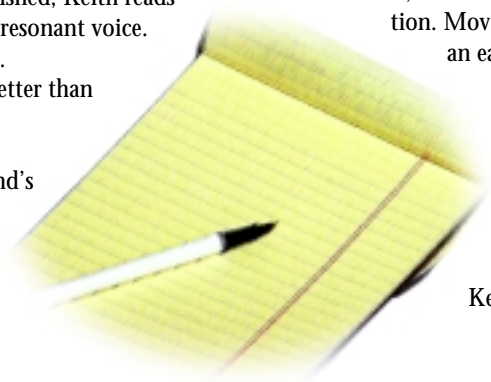
Mary returns to the topic of Barb’s father’s secrets. “The last one we read was all about secrets,” she says. “But I pulled all of that out of there,” Barb responds, indicating just how much revision some of these works undergo. Bruce continues the topic: “There’s an inner life about which you don’t tell, but it’s not secret, it’s private.” The group debates whether the word “secret” carries a bad connotation. “I marveled at the fact that you could accept that he wouldn’t tell you. I liked that part,” Michael says, a rare kind word in this critique. As they’re wrapping up, Keith hands out copies of “Ode on a Grecian Urn,” pushing his sense of connection between the poem and Barb’s essay. “I just have to work through this,” Barb says. “I felt it was out of focus.”

Mixing Poetry and Prose

It’s only been in the later years that the group has ventured into areas other than poetry. When Brad, a fiction writer, joined the group was about the same time that Barb started bringing her essays. “My problem was narrative,” Barb says. “I couldn’t tell a story. I can describe up the wazoo.” Having Brad the storyteller in the group was helpful, she says. Brad, likewise, found associating with poets helpful to his storytelling. He saw this group as a way to read and talk about poetry. “That’s good for fiction writers,” he says, “to look at language in that close way that poets do.” Barb’s dog Kelsey makes the rounds of the group to have her head scratched. At first she avoids Keith – she’s afraid of deep voices – but later jumps up on the love seat with him and nervously submits to his petting. A big deal is made of this since Kelsey has been afraid of Keith for years and has never allowed him to touch her. Copies of Keith’s poem, a piece called “The Work of Friends,” are handed out, and the room slowly falls silent as they all start to read. When they’re finished, Keith reads aloud, in his famously resonant voice. Kelsey leaves the room. “We like his voice better than Kelsey,” Karen says. Someone questions Keith’s image of a friend’s eyes as “dark parklands.” Others make suggestions as to why. Keith isn’t

allowed to answer. Brad calls it a “Keith-ism.” This is a group that has become very familiar with each other’s work. They all would know what Brad means by a “Keith-ism.” “Over the years, we’ve come to know each other so well,” Mary says. Most in the group could identify the author of an anonymous poem, she says. But not always. Keith said Brad brought in a poem once that everyone said must have been written by Maggie. “We need to have new blood now and then,” Mary says, referring to Bruce and Stephen Dunn, Barb’s fiancé and a Pulitzer Prize-winning poet. “They bring a different energy into the group.”

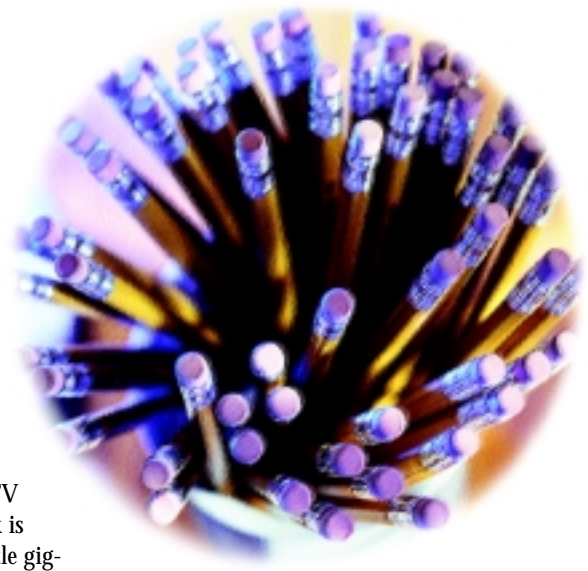
Keith’s choice of “to say, to say” in one line is discussed. Is he hesitating? Is he stuttering? “Should we take a vote?” Karen asks. They turn to the ending, which the group agrees is too melodramatic. It’s a statement about the friend’s mother, who died not knowing where her son was. “I think she dreamed her final dreams of her lost son.” They try to consider what would be a better choice as an ending. At some point, the dog has returned. Brad has problems with the line “ ‘You’re not only my only old friend;/ you’re my only friend,’ he says.” “That’s like ‘how much wood could a woodchuck chuck,’” Brad says. Other members offer their own tongue twisters. As they discuss his poem, Keith occasionally takes notes. He is expressionless, but his face turns redder and redder. Now comes the moment they call, “Author, Author.” The author can respond, ask questions, or vent. “How did we do?” Karen asks. Keith explains some of his references, and adds, “I knew I had a problem with the ending. I didn’t like the melodrama either. “I knew what the next to last stanza was. I just didn’t know what the last goddamn stanza was,” he says. Brad, the storyteller, makes a suggestion. Move the mother’s death into an earlier section of prose amidst the verse that serves as exposition. Then they rearrange a few other lines, and the poem’s difficulties begin to lift. “That’s very helpful,” Keith says.



They go on to tweak some smaller problems, then prepare to move on. “Keith, this is different for you,” Karen says. “Yeah. Story, character and feeling, my god!” agrees Barb. Brad, piling on, adds, “Where are the layers of obscure allusions?” At which point, Keith identifies a half dozen obscure allusions that no one else in the group had picked up on. The group often serves as a test audience. Keith generally writes prose poems, which he admits are thick with oblique references to deep, intellectual topics, and he likes it that way. “I believe in making demands of the audience.” “I consider these people careful, informed, sensitive readers. ... If something isn’t clear to someone in that group, I know I have overstepped,” he says. Barb looks for the same assistance with her metaphors. “I like leaping around – I’m an associative thinker.” That’s apparent in *Stirring the Mud*, where in just one paragraph she moves from a description of a mink to the differences theologians see between the personality and the soul to images of Muslims and Catholics at prayer to gardening and the tide. “I don’t want to leave the reader behind. ... They’ll tell me if [a metaphor] doesn’t make sense,” she says. Alerting others to confusion is one of Maggie’s specialties. “I’m easily confused. I’m like the canary in the coal mine,” she says. Karen’s critiques carry a special value for Barb. “She and I are opposite in anything in our taste. For example, she doesn’t like anything wet or muddy” – like swamps, the topic of Barb’s last book. “It helped me to bring in people other than those who love swamps,” Barb says. “She also hates caves.”

After returning from a break to refill wine glasses and allow Karen to smoke another cigarette, they return to tackle Bruce’s poem. It’s titled “TV,” and its content elicits chuckles from the group as they read it silently. It’s a critique of some modern poems, which “make perplexity an industry.” “I love a lot of this,” Barb says. “Why the centrality of the TV? What’s it doing for the poem?” Bruce, of course, can’t answer. During critiques of others’ works, Bruce tended to rest his hand on his head while he spoke. For his own critique, he listens with his hand clasped over

his mouth. Michael asks if anyone there reads poetry with the TV on. Keith starts discussing the modern American attention span. Barb admits to doing first reads of some student poetry in front of the television. Brad points out what he considers a clichéd turn of phrase, what he calls “adjective-noun poetry.” He offers up “The Broken Refrigerator of the Soul” as an example. Barb decides she now wants more TV in the poem. It’s getting late, the work is difficult, and the group is getting a little giggly. They all praise the humor in the poem. Michael encourages him to add more. They’re particularly fond of his depiction of the other poet’s description of a possum “not doing something possumy,” and the poetry editor’s orgasmic excitement about some lines that sound good but really don’t make sense. “I can see where you would be so excited about coming up with those lines,” Karen says. They toy with new titles, none serious, all combining possums and sexuality. It’s Bruce’s turn. He says it’s a comment on sound-byte poetry, the quality of modern poetry. The TV-isation of poetry. “This is a different poem for me. I try to avoid cultural criticism in a poem,” he says. “The humor saves you,” Barb says. “I think I’ll go further with it,” Bruce says.



“We need to work the word ‘marsupial’ into it,” Keith says, not being particularly helpful.

Labor of Love

“Some people feel writing groups aren’t worth the time, but I think they save you an incredible amount of time,” Mary says. “You can go off in the wrong direction, but you can’t see it because you’re too close to the work. The group brings you back.” As essential as the critiques are, so is the sense of support. “I need people like that around me. I need people who are really deeply interested in writing and ideas and who work as artists in language,” Barb says.

It’s Been a Great Year for Barb Hurd

Barbara Hurd has had a pretty decent run of good fortune over the past year or so. In early 2001, her collection of essays, *Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Bogs and Human Imagination*, was published by Beacon to positive reviews, including in *Publisher’s Weekly*, *The (Baltimore) Sun*, *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Washington Post*, which called her “the bard of bogs, the Walt Whitman of the wetlands, the poet laureate of mud.” One of those essays is also chosen for *Best American Essays of 2001*, her second visit to that august group; an early version of one of the *Stirring the Mud* essays appeared in *Best American Essays 1999*. By the end of 2001, her book had been chosen as one of the Best Books of 2001 by the *L.A. Times*, and she had signed a contract for her next book, another collection of essays, this time on caves. That was about when he heard about winning the Fellowship in Creative Writing from the National Endowment for the Arts, a \$20,000 award, one of only 36 nationwide. In 2002, she kept up the same pace. She was awarded the Wilson H. Elkins Professorship from the University System of Maryland, an \$80,000 award that will allow her to finish her caves book, *Three Sources of Light*, and prepare a proposal for her next book. That one is tentatively named *The Wrack Line*, named for the line of debris left on a beach after the tide goes out. While no one knows what accolades the talented Dr. Hurd will collect in the coming year, there’s a guaranteed Pulitzer Prize in her future. She’ll be marrying Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Stephen Dunn in February of 2003.



Hurd

— LDM

Brad, who has been part of one writing group or another for the past 20 years, says, “It’s been a part of my education as a writer.” “I’m a big believer in doing whatever it takes to feed your writing,” says Bruce, a newcomer to writing groups. He’s not sure he would have recognized their value before joining this group, but “you don’t know what you don’t know.”

Others simply like the discipline the group brings to their own writing, a deadline every two weeks, plus the knowledge that their work will be looked at with critical eyes.

“The group pushes you to work above yourself,” Maggie says.

Susan says the level of trust and encouragement in this group is unusual. According to friends of hers who write elsewhere, many groups are much more competitive, which undermines the trust. “I’m just grateful that this group exists,” she says. “It has a mysterious quality, something we can’t pull apart and analyze. I wish we could bottle it.”

3 a.m. Society – Student Writing Group

Professors and community members aren’t the only ones who are honing their writing skills with a little help from their peers.

FSU students are getting into the act with “The 3 a.m. Society,” an organization for student writers of all types of works – poetry, fiction, essays.

FSU English professor Brad Barkley, who also serves as the group’s advisor, suggested the name.

“It’s based on what a professor told me in college,” Barkley explains. “When I would reach a hard or difficult part of a story or poem, she would say, ‘That’s one of those decisions you will have to make sitting at your desk at 3 a.m.’ It’s a metaphor for writing.”

The organization, which meets Tuesdays in the late afternoon, allows students to workshop pieces, take input from their peers or simply share their joys of writing.

“We talk about our love of the craft,” says James Tardif, an English major on the creative writing track. A poet, Tardif says the organization has improved his writing ten-fold, but not in all areas. “I do write some short stories. But they all suck.”

That type of honesty is key to the student writing group’s success, he says.

“We’re going to be honest with each other. You don’t gain anything if you’re not,” says Tardif. “We want to encourage people to better express themselves.”

The Society has also established a computer listserv for students to post writings and receive

Karen’s poem is about a calla lily. It’s full of images, and the group praises them.

“I’m looking for the ‘you’ in this poem,” Bruce says. “It hints of you. That seems deeply invested, but I don’t know why.”

It’s getting late, after 10. Brad sinks deeper into the sofa, where he’s sitting between Mary and Karen.

Barb says this reminds her of an object poem, which is about just one object, but there are layers and layers of meaning. Brad wonders if object poems can ever be more than just exercises.

Keith tells Karen that she should remove the “I” from her poem, just about the opposite advice she had gotten from Bruce.

Karen presses her lips together. She looks like she’s struggling to keep the words in.

Keith then goes into a long discussion of Karen’s images of burning, volcanoes and fire. Karen, scribbling furiously, says, “Say that again.”

“Shit,” Keith says, “I don’t know what I said.”

The discussion becomes contentious about the art form, but they’re having fun with the argument.

When Karen speaks, she confirms she was working with an object poem. “It’s a collection I’m doing on flowers, more about spirituality than physicality.”

With that, the group goes after her title, “The Calla Lily as Mystic’s Icon.”

“I think you have to do a little more to pay off the mystic,” Bruce says.

“Thanks, that’s very helpful,” Karen says. She ventures an idea: “The object longs to awaken in us.” The group is silent.

“Eyh, eyh, eyh, eyh,” Keith says dismissively.

“It’s the same thing Cezanne was trying to do with his still lifes,” Karen says, “trying to get so much into the object.”

The discussion moves deeper into art, the arrangement of objects in still lifes and Japa-

Others simply like the discipline the group brings to their own writing, a deadline every two weeks, plus the knowledge that their work will be looked at with critical eyes.

nese art, how objects have their own meaning, subjectivity, student poetry. Karen’s poem has been left behind.

Michael, who has to teach in the morning, prepares to leave. They urge him to stay so they can critique his poem. Summer will be coming soon, and vacations take their toll on the regularity of the group’s meetings.

He passes out copies of his poem on the back of recycled paper, shorter than regular office paper. He says later that he disliked the last stanza so much that he cut it off of each copy before he showed anyone the piece.

His poem is about divorce. Pain is personified as a character who is given actions. The group likes this. They come up for new things for the pain to do – redecorate, leave the iron on. Probably because it’s late, some of the suggestions are a little silly.

“You’re on to something here, Michael,” Karen says.

Keith comments about the gender of the pain, making an overt a jab at women in general. The group’s women jump into the fray.

“Aren’t you glad you stayed, Michael?” Barb asks.

“Yes,” he says. “It’s so rare that I bring a poem you like.” He says he was holding back when writing about pain and says when he revised the poem later, he took some of their advice, even what they didn’t think was serious advice.

“I added some humor – I think it left all the lights on in the house to show that pain had taken over. They liked that effect.”

When Brad came to Frostburg about five years ago, he was midway through his book, *Money, Love*, and stuck. He started bringing it in a chapter at a time. “Having people talk about it made me think about it. I started writing again.”

“It became a game to stay one chapter ahead of them. It was my own way of getting myself going again,” he says.

With his second novel, however, he consciously didn’t bring its chapters. “It felt like too many cooks,” he says, on this more complex story. He also was writing it much faster than he had *Money, Love*, which took four years.

Brad still brings in short stories, but Keith was surprised he didn’t bring in more. “If there’s an ego kick, it’s to have your stuff done. There’s work involved in looking at each piece,” Keith says.

Final Chapter

Michael leaves before the last poem is read. It’s nearly 11. Everyone is getting a little ragged – and a little giddy.

Mary’s piece is next. As the group is reading, she tries to warn them the piece is an early draft. She’s shouted down. “No disclaimers.” Another rule.

This is a prose piece about an encounter Mary had with a teenage girl, a Tibetan refugee, while on a visit to India a couple of years ago with Barb.

The group feels the piece wants to be longer, to be a story. They identify the hidden agenda each character has.

Bruce says he mistrusts the motives of the piece, and sees clichés in her reactions.

As they discuss, they ask questions that Mary has the answers for, but she can’t give them. She presses her pen against her lips to keep from talking and nods as they speak.

This is a piece they’re struggling with, and they have little positive to say. And it’s getting later.

“I think this wants to be a short story,” Barb says.

“I think it’s six prose poems,” responds Keith. The piece has six paragraphs or stanzas, depending upon whether it’s a story or a prose poem.

“I think it’s a sculpture and an animated movie,” counters Brad. The suggestions disintegrate from there.

They’re finished the critiques, but the conversation goes on. This is normal, Barb says.

“Sometimes once we’ve put the work aside, we get into these amazing discussions about things,” she says, and the evenings sometimes stretch past 1 a.m.

“Sometimes I feel shredded,” says Mary of the critiquing process. “Other times I feel wonderful. That’s what makes it valuable.”

And they keep coming back, every other Thursday night, to the bosom of friendship, where they have the comradeship of their art, where it’s safe to get shredded.



3 a.m. Society members at its annual end-of-the-year campfire.

online comments and critiques.

“There’s a steady banter,” says Roger Skipper, a non-traditional English student and novelist, who takes part in the online sessions. “If someone makes a grammatical error in an e-mail, we love that. That can keep us going for days.”

Jes Teets, a senior, brings her first novel to the group.

It’s a story of a man who returns to his family’s beach house to fix it up and is faced with memories from his past.

“Ideas are sparked in the group, and then they grow,” she says. Teets also points out the social aspects of the Society, including a yearly bonfire at Professor Barb Hurd’s home. “It’s also an opportunity to get to know each other a little better.”

Jason Brady (Class of ’01), a Frostburg alumnus who teaches developmental English at Potomac State College in W.Va., still attends the meetings to find guidance with his fiction that he describes as “odd, arrogant and stream of conscience.”

“I try to annoy as many people as I possibly can with my writings,” Brady adds, explaining that he has to preface his works beforehand. “They’re very muddled and extremely over the top. I can go from point A to point D and leave out points B and C.”

He enjoys the constructive criticism from his peers. “It’s easier than being in class because it’s less formal and more relaxed.”

The group’s creativity is contagious for Ed DeWitt, a junior who recently changed his major to English. “I get more and more ideas after hanging out with these guys.”

Like Brady, DeWitt feels more comfortable sharing his fiction and poetry with the group than in a classroom setting. He likes to write about “common things in an uncommon way.” Like what?

“Well, I just wrote a poem about walking around my parent’s house naked,” he says, with an impish grin.

At 3 a.m., hopefully everyone else is asleep.
— Ty DeMartino

acknowledgements:

From *Stirring the Mud: On Swamps, Bogs, and Human Imagination*

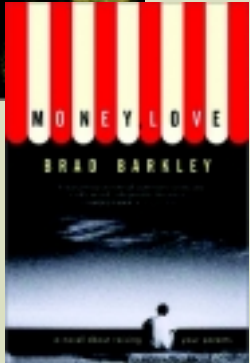
by Barbara Hurd

... and deepest gratitude to the Thursday night writing group: Brad Barkley, Jack DuBose, Mary Edgerly, Frank Fleckenstein, Michael Hughes, Keith Schlegel, Maggie Smith, and Karen Zealand. Without your support and brutal honesty, this book would not have happened. And without your friendships, my life would be less rich.

From *Money, Love*

by Brad Barkley

Writing, day by day, is such a solitary undertaking that it’s always surprising to look back once the book is finished and see just how many people had a hand in it. Much gratitude to ... the Thursday Night Group: Barb, Maggie, Keith, Karen, Mary, Jack, Michael, and Frank. Not bad for a bunch of poets.



For more than 25 years,

Frostburg State University students dedicated to performing gospel music have lifted their voices in song, connected with their roots and nurtured fellowship with kindred souls. Their audiences have been as close as Frostburg and as far as Atlanta, Georgia and beyond...

By Sara Mullins

What sets this student group apart from others on campus is a unique mix of its members' spirituality, artistic talents, reverence for and commitment to tradition and each other. It's a potent combination that continues to engage the singers and bring listeners to their feet, swaying and clapping. Popular both on and off campus, this group is often requested to perform at University functions and area churches. These students have joined forces as FSU's gospel choir.

The word "gospel" comes from the merging of the words "God" and "spel" or "story," and,

for Christians, refers to the "good news" of Jesus as savior of mankind.

In the lives of these students, gospel music offers a vital expression of their Christian faith. Inspired by the collective improvisations of the congregation and the preacher's rhetorical style, gospel is characteristically delivered with an emotionally charged spiritual force that moves bodies in rhythm and sends voices soaring. From its roots came rhythm and blues and soul music, which have, in turn, influenced popular music and culture worldwide. In essence, much of contemporary popular music is rooted in African-American gospel music traditions.

An integral part of the African-American worship experience, gospel is an urban form of church music that developed when former slaves brought their spirituals or "sorrow songs" to the urban centers they flocked to, along with their dreams for a better life. The church became a refuge and source of strength for these new city dwellers in unfamiliar and often hostile environments, where their traditional songs from back home fused with European forms of sacred expression, notably hymns.

At Frostburg, it all started in 1975 with Yvonne Green, a music student and "fantastic singer," according to Pansye Atkinson, director of FSU's Affirmative Action and Equal Employment Opportunity Office. A member of a gospel choir in Baltimore, Green brought the group to Frostburg for a performance. Not long after, the FSC Gospel Choir made its debut. Under the leadership of its next leader, Tom Dodson, the group grew in numbers and presence, with frequent appearances at local churches.

Like many student organizations, the group's numbers rose and fell over the years. Because the group was funded primarily by members, the choir often struggled financially. Its name changed to the Gospel Voice Choir, then to FSU Gospel Voices. At times, the choir was silent.

In the 1990s, choir leaders Elyria "Tasha" Clark (Class of '99) and Anissa Hewitt (Class of '98) revived the ensemble and decided a new name, Unified Voices Under God's Dominion, befitted its rebirth. According to current advisor Carmen Jackson, "They wanted to put God in their name, and they decided they were unified, to serve God."

Jackson, the director of FSU's Diversity Center, has worked with the choir since around 1980 and has served as advisor since 1997. Past advisors include Charlie Spencer Lackey, formerly of the Ort Library, and Judy Wolfe, recently retired from FSU's Student Support Services Office. Robin Wynder of the Diversity Center stepped in temporarily while Jackson was on leave and continues to offer assistance.

"It wasn't just a choir; it was more like a



The group, in the late 90s, added more members and instruments.

family," Lackey recalls of her years as advisor. "The talent in that choir was unbelievable. Almost everyone could sing lead. They sang together with no one trying to be the center of attention. That choir provided a great deal to many of the students. It allowed them to blossom, gain self-confidence, learn about team playing. To me, it was one of the most rewarding experiences I had during my 20-year tenure at Frostburg."

Since its inception, FSU's gospel choir has evolved with the times, with changing names, musical styles, worship traditions and activities, yet its focus remains faithful to its evangelical mission. Jackson says, "It depends on who's the leader. Each gives the group a different flavor."

The organizational structure is a hybrid of the usual offices and those unique to a gospel ensemble. As a student organization at FSU, the choir must have a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. As a gospel choir, the group includes an accompanist, drummer, musical director, chaplain and Sergeant of Arms to handle meeting and performance logistics. Besides singing, weekly Bible study is a priority. They also enjoy dances, guest speakers, movies, bowling and other fellowship activities.

The choir attracts students seeking connection with others who share their Christian beliefs. Most are members of gospel choirs back home. Membership fluctuates between about 16 and 30.

Recruiting efforts include flyers and notices, but most students hear about the choir by word of mouth. Students audition to determine their placement. The balance of voices, a matter of chance, determines the group's repertoire.

"It's an organization where an individual can flourish," Jackson says. She cites her daughter Clory, a recent graduate of Allegany High School, who was welcomed into FSU's gospel choir while in her early teens.

"I was rather shy and was seeking role models in the Christian community of the same ethnicity, culture and background," Clory says. Now bound for Spellman College to study theatre and music, she believes her experience with the choir helped her grow personally, spiritually and artistically.

"All students are welcome," says current Unified Voices President Prince Malcolm, a junior majoring in justice studies. "The choir is for students of any ethnicity."

"The fellowship and love creates a common level and keeps you sane," says Malcolm, who hails from Prince Georges County. After growing up in a home filled with popular music, he discovered Anita Baker, whose gospel-flavored jazz inspired him to join a high school gospel choir at a friend's church. Working with a friend, he is developing a form of what he calls "Christian hip-hop that's relevant to people."

After struggling with homesickness in the strange new world of Frostburg, Vice President Kyndal Farmer, a junior psychology major, credits the choir for helping her reconnect to her roots in music and the church. "The choir changed my life. It gave me friendship and spiritual growth. I asked myself, 'What can I

Since its inception, FSU's gospel choir has evolved with the times, with changing names, musical styles, worship traditions and activities, yet its focus remains faithful to its evangelical mission.

making a joyful noise



do to make my life better?" She found her answer with the Unified Voices.

A Baltimore native whose mother teaches music, Farmer cites gospel innovator Kirk Franklin and Donnie McClurkin as strong musical influences.

The campus response has been gratifying on many levels. This past April, a Gospel Extravaganza sponsored by the Unified Voices attracted a good crowd of students, faculty and staff, along with members of local churches. A choir parent in attendance was moved to offer a tangible expression of her feelings through a generous donation.

"Gospel is becoming more alternative, and people are looking for something to live by," says Farmer, noting the choir's growing popularity.

The choir has often performed during FSU's annual Martin Luther King Convocation. During many recent Convocations, the Unified Voices had many audience members dancing in the aisles. In 1998, Unified Voices then President and lead singer Corey Finch (Class of '01) led the choir with Stevie Wonder-style vocals in a jazzy call and response number accompanied by piano, drums and tambourine.

Years ago, when Lackey was advisor, she and Jackson accompanied the choir to Atlanta for a Martin Luther King Day celebration at Morehouse College. Lackey believes that she is not biased in her opinion that the FSU choir was the best of the choirs performing that day. A highlight of their visit was lunch with members of the King family.

After years of scrambling for rehearsal space, often in the basements of various residence halls, the choir now meets weekly in the Performing Arts Center. As part of its evangelical mission, Unified Voices frequently takes its show on the road. They often travel to perform at members' home churches and others in the Baltimore-Washington area and Pittsburgh.



The singers today with advisors Carmen Jackson and Robin Wynder (front row).

"When we're out, we are a ministry for God," Farmer says. "We take it seriously."

Every third Sunday, they sing at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Cumberland and have appeared at other local churches. For choir members from other areas, Ebenezer has often become a home church during their time at FSU as a result of its "Watch Care" program.

One alumna of FSU Gospel Voices found more than a temporary home church while far from her Baltimore spiritual home. For Shannon Crawley-Watkins (Class of '97), the FSU-Ebenezer connection led to marriage and a new home after she met Kenny Watkins, who has served as Ebenezer's Minister of Music for 13 years.

"He took me under his wing and helped me," she says of her husband. "He encourages people to use their gifts."

Soon after transferring to FSU in 1993, Crawley-Watkins became vice president of the choir under Hewitt's leadership. After graduating from FSU, she continued to share her vo-



A performance by the gospel group is a regular part of the Martin Luther King Convocation on campus

cal gifts through public performances and the release of a compact disc, "You Can Trust in God." Her husband provides accompaniment and back-up vocals. The couple also performs with Alisa Howze, a counseling psychologist in FSU's Counseling and Psychological Services, in the new gospel trio, Souls Won.

"FSU creates a lot of connections," says Crawley-Watkins, citing the members of her church and the university's gospel choir. "It produces people who come together." She cites the marriages of Clark and fellow chorister Tony Logan (Class of '98) and, several years later, of former president Finch and Sherathian "Tracy" Mahan (Class of '01). Both couples now have children.

Like Crawley-Watkins, Finch has continued to develop his musical talent. While pursuing a degree in medicine from Howard University, he sings with and writes music for his gospel group, Soul Food. He is now negotiating a recording contract for the group with Sony Records.

During his four-year tenure as president of Unified Voices, Finch gained a reputation on campus as a gifted singer and songwriter while meeting the demands of his biochemistry major.

"It took a lot of time," he recalls of his work with Unified Voices, "but it was a fun time. The university was really supportive." Under his leadership, the choir worked with local choirs and church youth programs.

After a year's experience in their respective positions, current leaders Farmer and Malcolm hope to increase campus participation during the coming year. They see a convergence of gospel with popular contemporary forms like rap and hip-hop. Both feel a responsibility to serve Unified Voices as role models and leaders.

Farmer sums up the choir's essential mission: "Our purpose is to minister to others."

As an ensemble expressing the unity of head, heart, body and soul that characterizes gospel music, FSU's Unified Voices celebrate the fullness of life in the context of community.

That is indeed "good news."

the missing years

lost but never forgotten...

By Sara Mullins

Writer's note: While researching the student newspaper story in the last issue of Profile, I was unable to locate any issues of State-to-Date for the years 1967 through 1972. Having lived through those lively years of anti-war protests, streaking on campus and Timothy Leary, I was quite puzzled. Had someone spirited them away? Did the paper go underground? Was there a conspiracy afoot to hide them? After all, this was a period noted for upheaval and controversy. So I made what was, in retrospect, the dubious assumption that the campus newspaper was not printed during that period. Several alumni, especially former State-to-Date staff members, were quick to point out the error and offered some intriguing anecdotes from those years. Happily, I found the missing issues (and have no idea what happened to them before). My faux pas offered me an excuse to explore an era I am old enough to remember with a mixture of awe, affection, amazement and amusement.

If any one word were chosen to capture the spirit of the United States between 1967 and 1972, "unrest" would be a strong contender.

An increasingly unpopular war in Vietnam divided the nation and sparked protests, especially on the college campus where only a "2-S" student deferment prevented many male students from military service in Vietnam. Psychedelic music ruled. The Beatles released their influential "St. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band" LP, a half-million flocked to the legendary Woodstock Festival and guitarist Jimi Hendrix died of a drug overdose. A shocked nation grieved the loss of yet another Kennedy, Attorney General Robert F., shot down in Los Angeles. The assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. dealt a blow to the peaceful struggle for civil rights, and the militant Black Panthers gained power. "Women's Lib" asserted itself as women joined consciousness-raising groups. Publication of the Pentagon Papers and a break-in at Washington's Watergate Hotel revealed a darker side of the federal government.

During the "missing years," the pages of *State-to-Date*, the Frostburg State College student newspaper, reflected the spirit of the times, which were, as Bob Dylan sang, "a-changin'."

1967-68

The lead story of the Sept. 28, 1967, issue, "Hearings on Student Rights and Voting Bill to be Held," was directed to a student body passionate about public life and personal rights. Another story described the opening of the new Counseling Service on campus. Ann Wildes served as managing editor, and "Clews Views" still appeared regularly. No advisor is listed in the staff box, but it did include a cartoonist.

Timothy Leary's upcoming address on LSD was the topic of the next issue's lead story. Leary came to FSC for a campus symposium on "to discuss the growing phenomena of drug use in America." The editorial in this issue, "What Price Glory or: Make Love Not War" echoed what became a mantra.

Despite these serious topics, the ever-popular Disney theme was chosen for Homecoming that fall. The "Tawesma Hall," also known as the "Science Fiction Building," was near completion. A student poll revealed that students expressed interest in a symposium on sex. The Student Association's use of student activities fees sparked a controversy that ended in a faculty resolution critical of the organization's practices.

The Nov. 16, 1967, issue includes two ads epitomizing the period's split between the new and the old. An anti-war ad, entitled "Individuals Against the Crime of Silence," includes a listing of such luminar-

ies as Linus Pauling, Benjamin Spock, James Baldwin, Ray Bradbury, Dick Van Dyke and Ben Gazzara. The other reads, “Girls - Easily Earn \$200 by Christmas through Spare-time Sewing at Home Even Without a Sewing Machine.”

Frank Florentine took over as managing editor for spring '68. Spiro Agnew was governor and students pressed for pass-fail grading. By February, *Bittersweet* made its debut as an official student publication. “Liberal Arts Destiny Debated” appeared in March, along with a barrage of letters critical of the newspaper, including “Staff Called Ignoramuses.” The year ended with the following tidbit: “Hip Instructor Abandons Campus Following Easter Vacation Period.” He apparently went off with “hippies” after giving away many of his possessions.

1968-69

John Bardi began the 1968 academic year as managing editor, with help from assistant editor Tom Mullan. An anti-riot amendment of a higher education bill aroused the ire of a staff writer, and theatre professor Jack Vrieze panned a National Players performance of “Midsummer’s Night Dream” with the conclusion, “It was not as I like it.” Civil rights activist Dick Gregory of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee contributed “Violent Rejection Produces Militants” about the tragic results of attempts to integrate an elementary school in Greenwood, Miss.

The year ended with a story on the results of the Walker Report on police brutality dur-

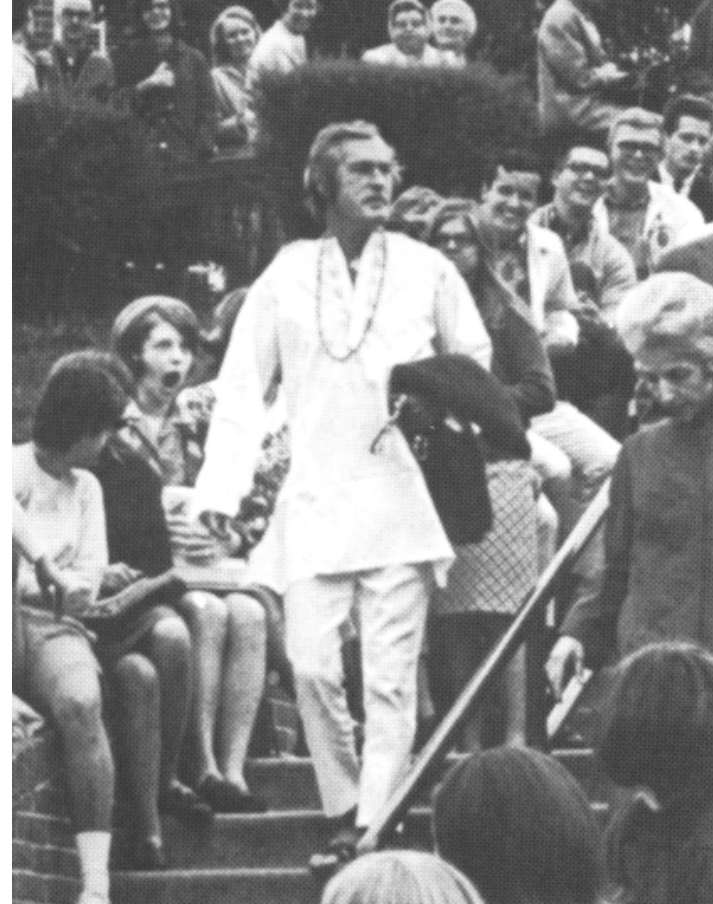
ing the 1968 Democratic Convention in Chicago, an event watched on television by millions of shocked Americans.

The first issue of 1969 offered a lively mix for readers. A front-page story urged students to join the grape boycott led by Cesar Chavez of the United Farm Workers. “Student Radicalism: the four year activity” appeared as a commentary on the editorial page. Another story listed familiar complaints about the campus food service: “repetition, doughnuts not fresh, no ketchup for eggs.” Frantz Violot of Haiti offered his observations of Americans as anti-intellectuals obsessed with achieving wealth and material goals. Finally, Robert Fulford suggests “How to solve university problems.” He says, “Going to University has become for some part of the population, a kind of disease, like alcoholism or narcotics addiction.” Calling liberal education “useless” and “a sad farce,” he concludes that “a sharp decrease in Going to University will solve almost everything... and will be remembered as what it was: a stupid (but fortunately short-lived) fad of the middle class.”

In the Feb. 27 issue, the campus looked forward to the upcoming program, “Sex, Sexuality and Life,” which included an address on “The Playboy Philosophy” by *Playboy Magazine’s* public affairs officer. Another story, “College presidents hold ‘bitch-in,’” described a meeting between students and presidents of Maryland colleges.

Readers discovered that Maryland, along with Mississippi, was cited by the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare for “operating racially segregated state college systems in violation of federal law.”

By April, some readers were fed up with the newspaper. A story in the April 15 issue states, “The General Association met in emergency session to discuss the removal of *State-to-Date* Editor John Bardi.” The story described the distribution of flyers by pledges of Tau Kappa Epsilon, who charged that the newspaper was guilty of “not reporting news or



Timothy Leary came to FSC for a campus symposium to discuss the growing phenomena of drug use in America.

representative views of FSC students, offending a sense of decency and intellect, allowing one man to use the paper to express his own opinions and becoming journalistically unethical.” Motions were passed to express dissatisfaction, request the resignation of the editor and form a committee to explore complaints. Bardi did not step down.

“Planners announce campus design” was the lead story in the May 1 issue. By 1980, the planners projected an enrollment of 3,500 and suggested an outdoor amphitheatre, two ski slopes, a ski lodge, married housing, a college union, a field house and a lake near the “base of the mountain.” In a letter that must have pleased the staff, a student criticized the recent meeting regarding the newspaper and compared TKE’s tactics to those of the German brown-shirts’ “repression and censorship.” On the sports page appears a story covering the Frostburg “Bobkittens” lacrosse team, complete with a photo of the players in plaid skirts and knee socks.

The year’s last issue ended with a story regarding the findings of a committee formed to

explore perceived problems with *State-to-Date*. Recommendations included: 1) requiring each editor to state the editorial policy and operating procedures; 2) an effort to include more objective news and distinguish news from opinion; 3) enlisting reporters from other student organizations; 4) including Student Association members on the newspaper’s editorial board and 5) arranging for training in journalism or course credit for editing.

1969-70

Nelson Guild became president of FSC when *State-to-Date* resumed publication in fall of '69. The issue included stories on a housing shortage on campus, the new campus radio station, a review of Eldridge Cleaver’s “Soul on Ice” and a statement of the newspaper’s policies from Managing Editor Tom Mullan.

Protests against the Vietnam War prompted stories and spirited commentaries throughout the fall. Other items included a Who’s Who of FSC’s Top 10 Seniors, the results of a radio station survey on students’ musical preferences (pop rock was the top choice), the formation of the Afro-American Society of Frostburg State College “to improve relations between Blacks and Whites,” a special story on race relations at FSC and the establishment of the Red Neck, a student-run store offering “beads, posters and records.” Record reviews included recent releases by the Beatles, Janis Joplin and Blind Faith.

Meanwhile, the editorial scene remained lively as ever. An editorial in the Oct. 24 issue criticized the faculty as passive with the following complaints: “They accept abuse from administrators and students,” and “the faculty have traded their ideals for their jobs.” Not surprisingly, a reaction was soon forthcoming from a faculty member who complained in a letter to President Guild that the editor was “dealing in falsehoods” and that Guild should request a retraction. Managing Editor Mullan responded that *State-to-Date* was published under the guidelines for academic freedom from the American Association of University Professors and included relevant portions in his editorial.

A conflict between President Guild and student teacher Tom White dominated the first issue of 1970, with letters written by each party. White expressed dissatisfaction with the structure of FSC’s teacher education program, especially regarding student teaching. Guild’s letter acknowledged White’s complaints but included concerns about White’s “personal behavior in attempting to advance your views upon the College and the Community.” *State-to-Date* took an active role in the controversy, including a proposal that a committee examine the issue of student teaching. Guild refused, the newspaper reacted, but eventually the Department of Education conducted a self-study that resulted in a proposal to restructure the teacher education program.

Questions arose regarding the appropriateness of Red Neck Productions’ charter defining “an essentially business enterprise as an student organization.” Its charter mentioned the operation of a “Coffee House, a Head (or Craft) Shop and a Photo Gallery to meet certain needs now present on the Frostburg campus.” The Student Association decided to grant a one-month’s tentative approval.

Limited pass-fail grading was approved that spring and ads for beer from Cumberland’s Queen City Brewing Company made their debut. The first Earth Day was celebrated on April 22. The Fine Arts Building and Dunkle Hall



By 1980, the planners projected an enrollment of 3,500 and suggested an outdoor amphitheatre, two ski slopes, a ski lodge, married housing, a college union, a field house and a lake near the base of the mountain.

— State-to-Date, 5/1/1969



were dedicated, and the Lane Center was on the drawing board. A plea for VISTA read, “VISTA: low pay, long hours – interested?” After meeting to discuss campus protests against U.S. involvement in Cambodia, President Guild issued a statement requesting that FSC students demonstrate “in a peaceful, non-provocative way” and urged that protests should remain close to campus in light of the recent tragedy at Kent State University. He suggested that protesters fast to “not only purge their souls but also draw public attention to the cause.”

Meanwhile, the editor continued as campus activist. In “Revolt against token power,” Mullan said, “It’s time for the students to say to hell with this type of bribery” in response to administration and faculty requests for student representation on campus committees. An April editorial proclaimed, “Politicians use students” and advised students, “Don’t give them votes.” He offered thanks to Dean of Admissions Dave Sanford for expanding summer school options. The perennial issue of academic advising appeared (“Quality of advising to be improved?”), and in “Clean up your own backyard,” readers were asked to take personal responsibility for the environment. On a lighter note, the April Fool issue’s editorial poked fun at town-gown relations with “Townpeople agree: students to be equal” and ran stories like “Red tape organized” and “New building out of site,” claimed that the Fine Arts Building was slowly sinking.

The Rag

1970-71

Rosemary Klein took over as editor during the fall 1970 semester. A new College Forum consisting of faculty, administrators, library staff and students was charged with making policy decisions. Controversy arose regarding the *Nemacolin* yearbook, with an editorial suggesting that students “Burn your yearbook!” along with rebuttals from the embattled staff. Ads for a five-day Nassau sun trip costing \$142.50, including a Welcome Rum Cocktail Party, offered an option for Spring Break.

In October, *State-to-Date* ran a story about a former student’s accusations of “free love and widespread drinking” at FSC that appeared in the *Baltimore News American*. Apparently, after only two weeks on campus, a freshman girl withdrew from FSC and, with her parents, wrote a letter containing the allegations to Governor Mandel. President Guild sent a letter to students’ parents addressing the controversy and assuring parents that student behavior “in the great majority of cases is within the bounds of commonly accepted social norms.”

Allegations of racism on campus appeared in the newspaper, which prompted student commentaries and letters exploring “Black Power.”

That fall, two headlines could have been candidates for inclusion in a collection of unintentionally funny bloopers. “SA consid-

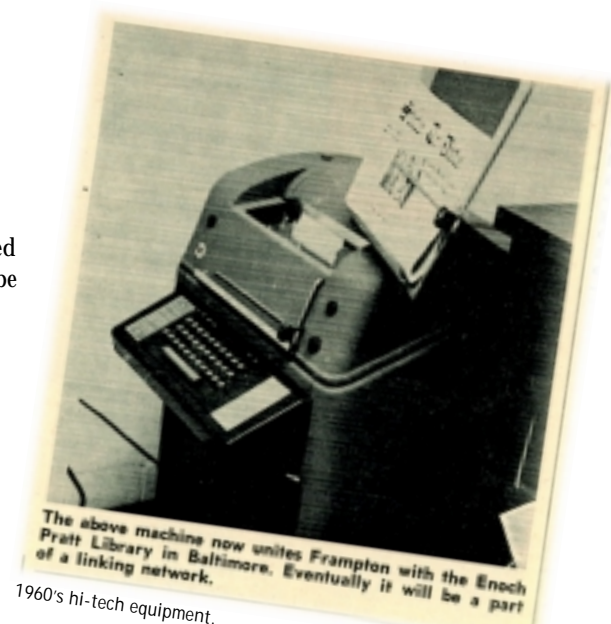
ers abolition of classes” actually referred to a suggestion that class government be discontinued. And “Bar hours should change” referred to the snack variety.

If *State-to-Date* issues from Spring ’71 are any indication, FSC was a “happening place.” A series of articles under the headline “Manson family defended” appeared in the first issue of the new year, along with a review panning “Love Story” (book and movie both). An ecology column made its debut in the Feb. 4 issue. “See Sex Staged” actually described a children’s play. The return of *Bittersweet* was announced, a letter from a New York clinic offering abortion services appeared and a cartoon and editorial concluded, “Ogden Foods is a Bummer.” In the April Fool’s *The Rag*, “Pornithologists to ogle birds” appeared on the same page as “Luny letters.” Some silliness remained in the April 22 issue, when all headlines on the front page ended with question marks: e.g. “Who is Dick Gregory? What is a Mason Proffit? How is a housing policy?”

1971-72

Next fall, Gary Blank and Fred Forward shared top editorial duties. They decided to increase the newspaper to eight pages to allow more graphic art, poetry, more commentary and increased coverage of major issues. In the Nov. 15 issue, coverage of the Cumberland City Council first appeared, and the editorial “Pros for Publication Board” suggested the creation of such a body

to help improve FSC student publications. Another lively semester of *State-to-Date* was the result. “Strippers Go Too Far” criticized strip mining, and the sports editor had an alliteration field day with



The above machine now unites Frampton with the Enoch Pratt Library in Baltimore. Eventually it will be a part of a linking network.

“Bobcats Blast Blundering Bengals.” Parking complaints became an issue that continues to this day. English professors Richard Trask, Keith Schlegel, Doug DeMars and Molly Walter-Burnham arrived on the FSC campus.

A no-alcohol policy was described in “Drinking Thinking Revamps,” and “Give the Draft the Shaft” offered strategies to prolong 2-S deferments. Regarding the issue of identity theft, President Guild issued a statement condemning the release of confidential information on students, faculty and staff to credit agencies by college personnel. The Women’s Political Caucus was formed, Republican students urged students to “Vote Right! Vote Buckley” and a “Black Perspectives” column appeared on a regular basis. “Ogden Foods Ousted” dominated the front page of the Nov. 8 issue, complete with unappetizing photo of a meal including a charred chicken leg, blobs of what appears to be mashed potato and a substance that may be spinach, topped by a wad of butter.

Commentaries continued on the war (“Who Wants the War? We Don’t! Not Anymore”), the environment (“Waste and trash on campus” and “Need for Ecological Land Zoning”) and race relations (“On White Racism”). The author of “Jesus Freaks – Fact or Fiction” compared this contemporary phenomenon to “the comeback of Howdy Doody.”

In the Feb. 21, 1972, issue, the editorial claimed that a state senate bill to make student activities fees voluntary was a “vindictive move designed to infringe upon the entire state college system as retaliation for the past” and a “symbol of repression”

The environment continued to draw attention, with “Mother Earth Raped” about the proposed Alaska oil pipeline and statistics on

pollution from a book, “The Sun is Going Down for All of Us.” By March, “Frostburg Becomes a Wet Campus” appeared, with descriptions of FSC policies on student use of alcohol. The surprising fact that Garrett and Allegany counties led the state’s percentages of student voters aged 18-20 was described in “Student Vote Pushes Self-Determinism.” An editorial suggested the College’s denial of a philosophy major struck at the foundation of a liberal arts education. Criminal pranks, especially bomb treats and arson, raised concerns. Complaints about a \$2.75 charge for admission to a Linda Ronstadt concert prompted a



Linda Ronstadt rocked the campus in ’72.

commentary justifying the amount by a student involved with campus activities.

On page three of the year’s final issue, published on May 8, appears a small notice: “To Those Whom We Might Offend Next Week, Our Humble Apologies – In Advance!” This sassy epitaph could serve as a mantra for college student journalists in any period, everywhere.



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State-To-Date

Vol. 23, No. 1 FROSTBURG STATE COLLEGE September 16, 1971

Guess Who’s Coming To Speak?

Julian Bond, the well-known member of the Georgia House of Representatives, will speak at Frostburg next Wednesday, September 22nd in Compton Auditorium at 8:00 p.m.

Mr. Bond, who was born in Atlanta, Georgia, is a civil rights leader who objected to his statements about the war in Vietnam. A second election was held in February, 1966, to fill his vacant seat, and Mr. Bond was once again the victor. However, a special House Committee again voted to bar him from membership in the legislature. After he had won a third United States House of Representatives seat in 1970, he was again elected to the Georgia House of Representatives.

Audrey Panichakoon Crone:

Alumna Goes to “Uncharted” Territory with Online Magazine

Sitting at a restaurant on a spring day in the South Street Seaport section of Manhattan, one wouldn’t imagine thoughts shifting to the South Pole.

But for **Audrey Panichakoon Crone** (Class of ‘91), the idea of traveling to and exploring the icy unknowns of Antarctica is a ever-present dream.

“I have an obsession with it – the idea of going to the last place on Earth,” Crone admits, looking out a plate glass window with swarms of New Yorkers buzzing by.

Ironically, in her professional life, Crone is also exploring uncharted territories.



She is co-founder of a unique online publication for English-speaking Asian women. *JADE Magazine* (www.jademagazine.com) “strives to be the voice of English-speaking Asian women around the world.” Crone and her partner, Ellen Hwang, are providing “a needed medium for the open discussion of views, ideas and concerns” through their e-zine.

Published bi-monthly since 1999, *JADE* covers the same contemporary topics as other women’s magazines — career, fitness, beauty, fashion, relationships. However, *JADE* approaches subjects from the perspective of Asian and Asian-American women – a voice that has not been fairly represented in the media, according to the magazine’s founders.

Crone, who is Thai and Chinese, was born in Bangkok and moved to Rockville, Md., with her family at age 9. She came to FSU and earned an art history/design degree before getting her master’s in communications designs from Pratt Institute in New York. While her parents taught her to embrace her heritage, she didn’t interact with many of her Asian peers until she attended Pratt, where she became involved with the international student community.

“I realized I was missing the other part of me,” Crone recalls. Growing up, Crone attempted to find answers on women’s issues in conventional magazines. “When I was looking for a make-up tip, I couldn’t find one. Then I started to realize, ‘You know what? Why isn’t there an Asian woman on the magazine cover?’”

Those questions remained with Crone when she met Hwang at an Asian American organization meeting in New York City in 1998. After discussing the lack of magazines for Asian women, the two surveyed women over the Internet to see if there was a need for such a publication. The positive response was overwhelming.

While Crone and Hwang originally



Audrey Panichakoon Crone, '91

wanted to produce a newsstand version of the magazine, limited time and funds led them to create an online publication. Crone, who has worked as an information architect and designer at several New York companies including VH-1 music channel, and Hwang, who has a law degree and editorial experience, oversee the daily operations of the e-zine, which include supervising writers, selling advertising, managing interns and laying out the publication. A resident of Astoria in Queens, Crone works on the magazine from her

JADE approaches subjects from the perspective of Asian and Asian-American women – a voice that has not been fairly represented in the media, according to the magazine’s founders.

apartment, where she lives with her husband, a management consultant.

“It’s a virtual office. You can be anywhere,” she says.

In addition to their publishing lives, both Crone and Hwang also maintain full-time jobs.

“I’m surprised we got this far,” Crone jokes on a break from her position as an information architecture consultant with Prudential Securities in Manhattan. “Ellen and I do the magazine because we love it.”

Since its debut, *JADE Magazine* receives an estimated 67,000 online readers per month, comprised mostly of women ages 20 to 29. Crone has received letters from the United Kingdom, Australia, Pakistan and Asia. *JADE* is also popular on the heavily Asian-populated West Coast and with Asian-American sororities and parents who have adopted Asian children.

As a result, Crone finds herself answering e-mails seeking personal advice.

“A young Thai girl from the United Kingdom wrote and asked if she should have surgery on her eyes [to look more Western]. I told her that while every decision is a personal one, she should be proud of who she is,” Crone says. “We want to empower all Asian-American women.”

Another goal of *JADE* is to break stereotypes of Asian women. A recent issue featured a plus-sized Japanese model.

“The stereotype is that all Asian-American women are submissive, passive and non-verbal,” Crone says. “The perception is that they would be a strong team player, but never a leader.” She notes the success of such high-profiled women as U.S. Congresswoman Patsy Mink from Hawaii, Avon CEO Andrea Jung and newscaster Connie Chung.

USA Today, *The Los Angeles Times* and *the Chicago Tribune* have also interviewed Crone and Hwang as experts on contemporary Asian issues.

JADE Magazine has also started sponsoring networking events in New York to celebrate the sisterhood of Asian-American women who are rising leaders in the arenas of art, design, fashion, journalism, entertainment and other non-traditional fields.

Most recently, Crone and Hwang printed hard copies of the magazine to complement the online publication. The print issue is available via the Web and at Tower Records and Books.

“Our growth is slow, but steady,” says Crone. While *JADE* is a labor of love for the two women, Crone and Hwang aren’t against the notion of selling the magazine to an established publishing company so it can receive better distribution and exposure.

“We want *JADE* to exist – with or without us,” says Crone. “Yes, it would be like letting go of your child. But we would be willing to give it a better home.”

If she sells the magazine, would she take a much-needed vacation to celebrate her accomplishments? Crone’s thoughts immediately head south again – way, way south.

“I’d probably go to Elephant Island,” says Crone of the exotic and secluded locale immediately north of the Antarctic Peninsula. “I’d like to go some place where no one else has been.”

Sounds like she has already been there.

Find out more about *JADE Magazine* by writing Village Station, Box 915, New York, NY, 10014. Or visit online at www.jademagazine.com.



Members of the Frostburg State Class of ‘52 who participated in the recent Golden Anniversary weekend included: (front row, left to right) Irene Michael Scott, Betty Lou Hinzman, Clara Phyllis Rigglesman Brotmarkle, Maxine Conrad Sutherland, Julia Darlene Brain Pepper, Patricia Benna Seifarth, David W. Lewis, (top row) Jack C. Kalbaugh, Harold L. Scott Sr., Richard L. Holler, Rebecca Manuel Millar, John H. Biggs and Arthur Maxell Lloyd.

Class of ‘52 Celebrates Golden Anniversary

The FSU Alumni Association held its annual Golden Anniversary, honoring the Class of ‘52, on Friday and Saturday June 7 and 8.

The weekend began with a Friday evening reception held in the Performing Arts Center and a guided tour of the building. Following the reception, a dinner was held at the Acropolis Restaurant on Main Street, Frostburg.

Saturday morning began with a welcome reception held in the Lane University Center Loft, followed by a noon luncheon, which was started with a welcome by David Lewis, president of the Class of ‘52. A remembrance was held for classmates who had passed away.

The festivities concluded with a guided bus tour of the campus which included a stop at Old Main, where alumni visited the facility that served as the primary academic building during their years as students.

The FSU Alumni Association and the FSU Annual Fund sponsored the 2002 Golden Anniversary Reunion. Planning committee members were Class of ‘52 alumni including David Lewis, Becky Manual Millar, Darlene Brain Pepper and Harold Scott.

fall 2002

Mark Your Calendars!

The Alumni Association has several events planned for the fall. If you have any questions about any event listed, please contact the Office of Alumni Programs at 301/687-4068 or alumni@frostburg.edu.

Alumni Achievement Awards

The FSU Alumni Achievement Awards will be presented to three graduates during this year's Homecoming Celebration, Oct. 24– 27.

This year's recipients include **Henry “Hank” Hanburger** (Class of ‘71 & ‘79) and **Judy Wolfe** (Class of ‘67 & ‘80) for Alumni Service to Alma Mater and **Rick Brindle** (Class of ‘82) for the Distinguished Alumni Achievement.

To be part of the festivities, find out more information online at www.frostburg.edu and click on the “Alumni” tab or call 301-687-4068.

1947

Frank Stone's granddaughters are now ages 17 and 6, and his first grandson was due in April. Early in 2003 Caddo Gap Press of San Francisco, Calif., will publish his book, *Theodore Brameld's Educational Reconstruction: An Intellectual Biography*. Brameld (1904-1987) was a prominent American educational theorist and activist who taught at NYU, Minnesota, Boston University and Hawaii.

1949

Flora Cook Lease and **Leona Green Gowans** (Class of '49) both retired in the early 1980s, but still continue to do substitute teaching in Allegany County, Md.

1951

Bertha Creek Kallmyer and her husband, Carl, travel regularly. In addition to using a half-dozen timeshares in Virginia Beach, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Washington State, they took a 50th wedding anniversary cruise to Alaska in August and a tour of Copper Canyon in Mexico this past February. In 2000, they spent three weeks in Thailand, making it about 46 countries they have visited.

1957

45th Reunion set
September 20-21, 2002, on the FSU campus. Detailed information will be mailed to the class members. Activities include a campus tour and dinner program, both

scheduled for Saturday, September 21. The Braddock Best Western Motel will serve as the host hotel for this reunion group. The Office of Alumni Programs will accept Reunion reservations through August 30.

1960

Jane Kroll joined the Allegany County Human Resources Development Commission as a teacher at the Cumberland Head Start in Cumberland, Md.

1962

40th Reunion slated
for September 13-14, 2002 on the FSU campus. Detailed information will be mailed to the class members. Activities include a campus tour and dinner program, both scheduled for Saturday, September 14. The Braddock Best Western Motel will serve as the host hotel for this reunion group. The Office of Alumni Programs will accept reunion reservations through August 23.

Elizabeth "Betsy" Elliott has published a children's book, *Tiger, the Teacher's Pet*, the result of a seed planted in 1958 by children's literature professor Dr. Dorothy Howard. To buy a copy before they appear in bookstores in late summer, contact her at 909B Maple St., Elizabeth City, N.C. 27909-4248 or etriste@simflex.com. Betsy has taught first grade at Albermarle School in Elizabeth City for 10 years and has been recognized as Teacher of the Year three times.

1964

Joanne Wardman McGregor still sees roommates Pat Capella Fair

and Linda Woodbury Callin. She is building a place in Rehoboth. She is trying to travel; so far this year: Hungary, Czech Republic and Austria, where she was on Sept. 11. All countries immediately hung black flags in public buildings - hotels and even small towns (one-horse) like Herend. There was much outpouring of compassion, she says.

1965

Anne Beane Slater received one of the first Teaching Excellence Awards from Frederick Community College. She has her students research their papers by engaging in on-site research.

1967

35th Reunion Scheduled
The Office of Alumni Programs is working with members of the Class of 1967 to plan and organize reunion activities during FSU's Homecoming weekend, October 25-27. Activities include a campus tour and dinner program, both scheduled for Saturday, October 26. The Braddock Best Western Motel will serve as the host hotel for this reunion group. Reunion reservations will be accepted by the Office of Alumni Programs through October 11. For more information, contact Colleen Peterson 301/687-4068 or cpeterson@frostburg.edu.

Bonnie Schupp since graduating from Frostburg, received an MLA from Johns Hopkins University. She is presently in the Doctor of Communications Design program at the University of Baltimore. Her daughter, **Lauren Schupp-Ettlin**, 21, graduated in spring of 2001.



Law and Order

Tom Slater (far right), Class of '66, organized a career-mentoring program, "Law & Order," for students interested in careers in criminal justice and law. The program took place on April 5 and involved several other FSU alumni including, Julia Minner, JoAnne Hockman, Dawn Moore, Kirby Maybush, Krista McGowan, Kristen Daggett and David Schultz.

1968

Gilbert Russell "Budd" Friend-Jones has been the senior minister at Central Congregational United Church of Christ in Atlanta, Ga., for the past five and a half years. He and his wife, Gretchen, have two children, Gabriel, 18, and Gaia, 15. In 2001, he spent a sabbatical studying in Italy and South India.

Loretta Langan Richardson and her husband, Ray, have two children, Eric and Jennifer. Eric and his wife, Wendy, had their first child, Elizabeth, in December 2001. **Jennifer**, a 2000 graduate of FSU, got her M.Ed. from the College of Notre Dame and began her teaching career in September 2001, instructing ninth grade earth science at Fallston High School in Harford County, Md. Ray will retire after 34 years of teaching in Harford County in June of this year. Loretta continues to teach kindergarten.

1969

Ralph Miller is in his 33rd year of teaching: 10 years of elementary art, 11 years of middle school and this is his 12th year of teaching fifth grade at Grantsville School in Grantsville, Md. His wife, Anna Marie, is in her 29th year of teaching elementary

school math. They have four children and four grandchildren.

1970

Geraldine Knoebel has worked at the University of New Mexico for the last 10 years. She was recently promoted to administrator of the Alliance for Transportation Research Institute.

Larry Kump married Nancy Kay Cork on Dec. 22, 2001, in the Washington, D.C., Temple of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Timothy Martin will begin his 27th year of teaching in the Division of Art at Sage College of Albany, Albany, N.Y., and invites all FSU alumni to stop and see him and the new art and design building as well as the new gallery the next time you're in upstate New York. His e-mail is martin3@sage.edu.

1971

Susan Kelly and her husband, Joe, retired this past summer. She was employed at Hechinger Co. for the past 33 years; he had 37 years of government service.

Jim McCarthy has just finished a novel entitled "Ground Zero and Beyond." This action/thriller centers on Dr. Patrick James Murphy,

a world-renowned dental forensic pathologist, who is contacted by the FBI to identify bodies after the 9/11 terrorist attack in New York City. While heading up the dental ID section, he finds a strange partially burnt denture containing a miniature computer disk, which belonged to the leader of the terrorist group. His discovery takes Dr. Murphy on an adventure filled with danger, international espionage, crooked FBI personnel and unexpected love. (There is even a reference to Frostburg State in the novel!) Jim plans to have the book published in the fall. If you're interested in obtaining a copy, write: Jim McCarthy, 1216 Bradley Ave., Eau Claire, WI, 54701 or email — jimac22@earthlink.net.

John Dane and his wife, **Lisa Caplan Dane** (Class of '74), have relocated to Indianapolis, Ind., where he has accepted a position as executive director of the United States Rowing Association, a membership and Olympic training organization. They moved from suburban Washington, D.C., on Sept. 11 with the fighter jets flying overhead! They have two sons, Erick, 22 and Alex, 18. Both attend Tulane University in New Orleans.

1974

Darlene McIntosh Frederick is celebrating 15 years of owning her successful art gallery and custom frame shop. The Framer's Gallery is in Keyser, W.Va. She is also a part-time substitute teacher in Mineral County, W.Va.

1972

Sharon Brown Lindsay retired from the Harford County Board of Education after 28 years of service.

1973

James Jelen, as of January 2000, is licensed as an insurance broker in the areas of life and health insurance by the state of Maryland. He has also been appointed to sell insurance in Virginia. His specialties are term life insurance and long term care insurance.

1976

Cathy Clark and **Joe McCully** married in 1981. They have three children; Sharon, 17, Heather, 15, and Joey, 12. She is Chief of Census Redistricting Data Office

at the Census Bureau. "Life is good! Hope everyone from '76 is doing well."

1977

Robert Bechill just completed a 24-year career with the U.S. Navy, retiring as a commander. He accepted a position in March 2000 as the "Dean of the Dark," (Dean of Evening Programs) for Heald College in Stockton, Calif. He and his wife, Pam, celebrated their 18th wedding anniversary on Dec. 30, 2001. He completed the 25th Marine Corps Marathon in 2000; he's still running, but not as fast. Recently he was promoted to captain in the Naval Reserve.

1978

James Dunne began teaching physical science at George Jenkins High School in February 2001. He is also the sports information director. He is in his 24th year of teaching.

Rodney Brewer has been decorated with the Air Force Achievement Medal. He earned the medal while serving as a shift chief assigned to the 512th Aircraft Generation Squadron at Dover Air Force Base, Del.

1979

Ralph Perrey was appointed by Tennessee Gov. Don Sundquist to the board of directors for the Tennessee Housing Development Agency. Prior to opening Fannie Mae's Tennessee office in 2000, he served five years on the Governor's senior staff. He coaches daughter Kristen's U-9 soccer team.

In July 2001, **Sharon Smith Morgan** was named principal of Westernport Elementary School in Westernport, Md. Her son, Matthew, earned rank of Eagle Scout in March 2002. He graduated from Frankfort High School in Ridgeley, W.Va., in June 2002 and has been accepted at Frostburg State University for the fall of 2002 as a psychology major.

Thomas Corbitt has been married for 16 years and has two children, 14 and 12. He also has been a State Farm Insurance agent for 20 years and coaches baseball.

1980

Robert Ouellette and his wife, Kimberley, have three children, Steven, 12, Stephanie, 9, and Robby, 7.

1981

Kimberly Kennedy Vaughn completed her master's in nursing from Johns Hopkins in the spring of 1999. She is a certified nurse practitioner with John Hopkins Hospital at Bayview. She has three children: Lee, high school freshman, Carly, sixth grade and Kelly, third grade.

1982

Kathleen Yodice married Steven P. Harris on Dec. 1, 2001. She is an attorney in private practice with offices in Frederick, Md., and Washington, D.C. They have a daughter, Cierra, 6.

Ruth Disney married **Larry Stivers** in 1986. They have two children; Christopher, 11, and Rachel, 7. She lives in Northern Virginia and is a stay-at-home

mom and vice president of the PTA at her children's school. She also helps coach her daughter's cheerleading squad, is active with her daughter's Brownie troop and has her own Mary Kay business.

1983

Cecilia Coburn Teal and her husband met in "jail" in Alaska. She worked for the juvenile detention center in Juneau and he worked for the maximum security prison. They married in 1987. She earned her master's in social work in 1992 at the University of Hawaii. They moved to east Tennessee is 1994 where she specializes in counseling children who have been sexually abused. She conducts assessments of youths involved in the juvenile justice system.

Duane DeVance and his wife, Tawanda, celebrated their 15th wedding anniversary Aug. 23, 2001. He continues his dual career as recently promoted major in the Maryland Army National Guard and the Foster Family Coordinator for Family Advocacy Services of Virginia. They enjoy their three children Stacey, 17, Michael, 14, and Brie-Ana, 10. They fellowship at Riverdale Baptist Church in Upper Marlboro, Md. "If you're ever in our area, please pay us a visit."

Ronald Davis and his wife, **Karen Price** (Class of '84), announce the birth of their second son, Daniel Leonard Davis, born on Sept. 30, 2001. Daniel joins his 4-year-old brother, Benjamin. They built a home in Parsonsburg, Md., two years ago. He continues as an instrumental music teacher at Greenwood Middle School in Princess Anne, Md., and she continues as an early childhood teacher at Buckingham Elementary in Berlin, Md.

continued ►

fall fun

Baltimore Orioles Baseball Game
Join the FSU Alumni Association as the Orioles go head-to-head with the New York Yankees.

Friday, September 27, 2002
5:30 p.m. - Pre-game picnic
7:05 p.m. - First pitch

For more information: 301/687-4068 or e-mail alumni@frostburg.edu.

1984

Laurie Johnson Bender announces the birth of her fourth child, Eric Matthew, on May 25, 2001. He joins his sisters, Marion and Elizabeth, as well as brother, Joseph.

Sophia Taylor and her husband, Tom Moore, live in Park Slope, Brooklyn, N.Y., with their three daughters, Elena 5, Julia, 3 ½, and Anna, 1 1/2. She has taken a break from social work to raise their daughters. Tom is a radio broadcaster for Bloomberg News.

William “Billy” Reeder and **Carolyn Reeder** (Class of ’84) added Lauren Anne to their family on July 12, 2001. She has already wrapped her father and her brother, Price Dawson (age 4), around her little finger. The Reeders are still in Kingsville, Md. William remains president of his own company, Affair to Remember, and Carolyn is an H.R. consultant with Kaiser Permanente, Mid-Atlantic Region.

1985



Donna Bertazzoni, above, has co-authored the book “Law, Media and Culture: The Landscape of Hate.” She is an associate professor of journalism and co-director of the communication arts program at Hood College in Frederick, Md. The book, which is receiving rave reviews, focuses on hate crimes and illustrates how the law is used to control chronic and ever-growing hatreds. The book is

available at the Hood College Bookstore (301/696-3480). Bertazzoni joined Hood’s faculty in 1987 and resides in Shepherdstown, W.Va.

1986

Marcia Skidmore is now selling real estate in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Mark Sullivan and his wife, **Natalie Sponaugle Sullivan** (Class of ’86) live in metro Atlanta, Ga. Mark has recently been promoted to Group Product Director of UCB Pharma, a Belgian pharmaceutical company. After 10 years of teaching elementary school, Natalie transitioned to a sales career. She is now the southeast regional manager for ThreeBond, an international chemical company. They celebrated their 10th wedding anniversary in May 2002.

Robert D. Brindle serves on the board of directors of three organizations, Cirista Health Foundation, The Port Tobacco Players and the Homeless Advocacy Association. He was crowned “Mardi Gras King” recently for raising the most money for the hospital. Rob’s current efforts are raising \$400,000 for PTP to renovate. He has been married to Natalie for nine years. A new addition to their family arrived in October 2000 — Maggi is a true bundle of joy.

1987

Ann Townsell, who is a graphic designer for Frostburg State University, won two awards for from the American College Unions International Region 4 Graphics Competition. She was honored with “Best of Show, Two-Color Poster Category - Professional Staff Division” for her

Williamson/Becker poster and “Best of Show, Brochure/Booklet Category - Professional Staff Division” for her Magic in the Mountains brochure design. Congratulations!

1988

Kimberly Karr Arnold recently joined Woodsboro Bank in Frederick, Md., as vice president and credit officer. She has 13 years of banking experience in the Frederick County market. She and her husband, **Robert Arnold** (Class of ’88) reside in Myersville, Md., with their 2-year-old son, Justin.

In 2001, **Troy A. Strieby** was the first graduate to receive a Doctor of Sports Management degree from the United States Sports Academy in Daphne, Alabama. Strieby is a member of FSU’s Health, Physical Education and Recreation department.

1989

Brian Snyder married Laura Beth Hook on Nov. 3, 2001. He is employed with Mid-Atlantic Pipeliners in Manassas, Va.

Jonell Thrasher Macbeth taught school for eight years, but is now taking a year off to spend time with her daughter, Emma Catherine, who was born in 1997.

Joseph Steele is the maintenance supervisor for the Joint Surveillance Target Attack Radar System aircraft at Robins Air Force Base Warner Robins, Ga.

1990

Catherine Bowman married Kevin Goldring on June 6, 1997. They had a daughter, Kayla, on



Alumni Association Grant — Colleen T. Peterson, Associate Vice President for University Advancement & Director of Alumni Programs (far left), joins Jessica Morgenstern (Class of ’78), president of the FSU Alumni Association (center) in accepting a check for \$5,000 from Estelle Martin (Class of ’77), representing Alumni Association International, Inc., to complete a grant prepared by the FSU Alumni Association. The grant provided funding to enhance the distribution of the University’s “Decade of Progress Report.”

Dec. 27, 1999, and a son, Kavon, on March 17, 2001. Catherine completed a Master of Arts degree from George Washington University in Organizational Sciences in December 2001. She is employed at the College of Southern Maryland as director of Student Services.

Kin Hernandez has a son, C.J., who turned 1 in September.

Robert Henderson and his wife, Jennifer, welcomed their baby girl, Jessica Grace, into their family.

Gina Paxton Speight supervises the Walsingham Academy Upper School Environmental Concerns Club. She was recognized by the Williamsburg Area Chamber of Commerce National Resources and Conservation committee with the 2000-01 School Environmental Award.



Gina Paxton Speight

Joseph Coleman and his wife of five and a half years, Laura, just

had their first child, Joseph P. Coleman IV.

1991

Amy Harclerode married Thomas Mailloux June 30, 2001. She is completing her graduate degree.

Kevin Dressman and his wife, Michele, celebrated the birth of their twins, Margaret Ann and Ian Daniel, on Oct. 25, 2001. She is a stay-at-home mom, but works occasionally as a pediatric nurse at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Md. He supports his family working as a National Safety, Health and Environmental Program Evaluator for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in Washington, D.C.

1992

Barry Hartung married Dawn Renee Cornachia (also Class of ’92). He is employed as a systems support representative and is also assistant pastor of the Family Ministry Church. She is a second-grade Title I reading and math resource teacher.

Cynthia Greer was married on Sept. 22, 2001, to Kurt Knedeisen of Lancaster, Pa. In October she left Express after working there for seven years and is now a manager for White Barn Candle Co. (Bath and Body Works) in Hanover, Md.

Doris Senko is very excited to be working at the U.S. Department of Labor in the National Administrative Office. The office works with NAALC — the labor side agreement of NAFTA.

Sherry Alves has been happily married since 1996. She is an administrative supervisor for the Bally Total Fitness corporate office in Towson, Md.

Michael St. Martin was named the National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) Coach of the Year for private/parochial schools in Maryland. He was nominated by soccer coaches statewide.



Faith Rosemary Walker

Rachel Windhaus Walker and her husband of nine years, Mike, celebrate the birth of their daughter, Faith Rosemary, above, born on Jan. 30, 2002.

1993

Amy Graham Rowan finished her graduate degree in curriculum and instruction with a concentration in educational technology this spring at FSU. She is married

to **Shawn Rowan** (also Class of ’93).

Michelle Mayhew has been doing interior design and recently had a custom library published in *Home & Design* magazine. She also won a Major Achievement in Market Excellence award for an interior design project at The reserve in McLean, Va.

Rhonda Prysock Martin was named employee of the year 2001 at National Jet Company in LaVale, Md.

In October 2001, **Sean McVeigh** married Jennifer Edwards, an education program manager from Greenwich, Conn. They live in Germantown, Md. He works for a law firm in Rockville, Md., and misses being in Frostburg.

1994

Beth Inskeep Chapman recently accepted a position with the Allegany County Board of Education teaching fifth grade at Flintstone Elementary in Flintstone, Md.

Diane Langan, upon graduating from Frostburg, began working with children with autism. She continued teaching while pursuing a master’s degree in learning disabilities from Marymount in May 1999. The following year, she married Frank Snyder Black III. They are pleased to announce of the birth of their baby boy, Christopher Andrew.

George Faber settled in Pikesville, Md., in 2001 after five years in Owings Mills. He is a realtor for Fiola Blum, Inc., a family-owned firm in Baltimore, Md. He also enjoys numerous volunteer activities in the community and has taken up running. He is training for the 2002 marathon.

continued ►



The Frostburg State University Alumni Association, in partnership with Collette Vacations, presents...

California Coast Tour

March 22-30, 2003 (9 Days)

- San Francisco
- Yosemite National Park
- Monterey
- 17 Mile Drive
- Monterey Aquarium
- Big Sur
- Hearst Castle
- Solvang
- Los Angeles
- San Diego

Day 1: Arrive San Francisco, California
Welcome as you join us on a scenic journey along California’s amazing coast. Your tour begins in “the City by the Bay,” San Francisco.

Day 2: San Francisco
Join a local guide for a captivating tour featuring the popular landmarks of this dynamic city. Highlights include the Twin Peaks, Seal Rocks, the Golden Gate Bridge and Chinatown. Upon completion of the tour, the remainder of your day is at leisure to explore Fisherman’s Wharf, shop in Union Square, or ride the famed cable cars up and down San Francisco’s thrilling hills.

Day 3: San Francisco - Yosemite National Park
Today you journey to one of Mother Nature’s greatest masterpieces, where amazing waterfalls and unique rock formations are simply awe-inspiring - Yosemite National Park.

Day 4: Yosemite National Park - Monterey
Prior to your arrival into Monterey, you will drive along one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world, the incredible 17 Mile Drive. Time will be allowed to explore Old Monterey and enjoy shopping at Cannery Row. Late afternoon, you will enter the aquarium to view the exhibits. This is followed by dinner in their Portola Café, featuring the beautiful Monterey Bay as a backdrop. It’s a perfect ending to an enjoyable day, one you’re certain to remember for a long time to come.

Day 5: Monterey - Solvang
A wonderful day of sightseeing is in store as you journey along the Big Sur Coast en route to Solvang. A stop will be made at the mountaintop retreat, Hearst Castle at St. Simeon, to see the all-marble pool and the huge dining room located in this incredible home.

Day 6: Solvang - Los Angeles
The next stop on your coastal journey is Los Angeles, the “City of Angels.” During your tour, visit Mann’s Chinese Theatre, where nearly 200 movie stars have left their hand and foot prints, and see the popular Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Day 7: Los Angeles - San Diego
En route to San Diego, a stop will be made at the Mission San Juan Capistrano, famed for the annual return of the swallows. Later, you arrive in San Diego and join a local guide for a tour of one of the nation’s most popular cities.

Day 8: San Diego
The day is yours in San Diego. Choose an optional tour or simply relax by the pool.

Day 9: San Diego - Depart for Home
Today you depart San Diego with many wonderful memories of your California vacation.



Includes:
Round Trip Air from Baltimore, Maryland; cancellation waiver and insurance; hotel transfers; 11 meals (5 breakfasts and 6 dinners)

For additional information and/or to make a reservation, contact Colleen Peterson at 301/687-4068 or cpeterson@frostburg.edu.



freelance design business in her “free time.” She designs logos, flyers, brochures and posters for businesses. She says her experience at the *Bottom Line* helped kick off her design career.

Keri Hendershot married James David Waymire June 9, 2001. She is employed at the Mental Health Center in Hagerstown, Md.

Elliot Richards married Susan Steinbeiss April 6, 2002. He is employed as a television anchor for Scanlan Communications in Marquette, Mich.

Michael Orndorf married Robyn Tennelle Alkire June 30, 2001. He is employed as a physical education teacher at Bond Elementary School in Laurel, Md.

Shana Kesler married Ryan Thomas Lewis June 23, 2001. She is employed as a personal lines service representative at CBIZ Benefits and Insurance in Cumberland, Md.

2000

Anthony Layman married Sarah Fike June 16, 2001.

Courtney Kissell moved to San Diego and is working for an investment company, First Allied Securities, in the compliance department.

Crystal Laurie married Jason Lee Frantz Aug. 4, 2001.

Geena Roby married Brett Allen Kile Dec. 2, 2000. She is employed as a firefighter/EMT by the Cumberland Fire Department in Cumberland, Md.

2001

Candace Miller married David Wayne Green Oct. 6, 2001. She

is employed at Good Shepherd Preschool, Hermiston, Ore., as the head teacher of the preschool department.

Christopher Burch married Jennifer L. Smith May 27, 2001. He is employed by the National Aquarium in Baltimore, Md.

Jennifer Abe has been hired as teacher associate at the Cumberland Street Head Start where she will assist lead teachers in Early Childhood Education.

Kristina Davidson married Jason Andrew Layman Nov. 4, 2000. She is employed at the Discovery Days Child Care Center in LaVale, Md.

In Memoriam

Friends of the University
Alta Schrock
November 7, 2001

Grace McKenzie
March 27, 2002

John H. Morey
February 21, 2002

Alumni

1928 Urla Baker Jamison
Oct. 29, 2001

1929 Mary Alma C. Dudley
May 27, 2002

1931 Eleanor Porter Tennant
April 3, 2002
Verna Miller Ternent
Nov. 28, 2001

1934 Gladys Wilson Broadwater
April 10, 2002

1935 Dorothea Houck Scanlon
Dec. 27, 2001

1939 J. Hayden Lewis
Jan. 7, 2002

1942 Mary Lou Dunne Zumbro
Dec. 4, 2001

1943 Lloyd Melvin Marshall
March 3, 2002

1944 Helen Ann Porter
April 13, 2002

1954 Hilda Elizabeth Holt Gellner
Dec. 27, 2001

Martha Bishop Gross
Jan. 4, 2002

1955 Clyde A. Fazenbaker
March 11, 2002

1956 Charles Frederick Gero
April 27, 2002

1957 John R. Fatkin
Feb. 12, 2002

Tommy L. Fogle
April 11, 2002

1964 Robert Stanley Weimer
May 19, 2002

1965 John A. Lowery
March 19, 2002

Ronald H. Ward
March 23, 2002

Victor Allan Twigg
April 27, 2002

1966 Lova Ann Stone
March 10, 2002

1971 Barry David Richardson
Oct. 14, 2001

Monica Lee Mason
May 6, 2002

Patricia Lane
Feb. 22, 1990

1971, 1989 Deborah Crone Heavner
Nov. 30, 2001

1974 Martha M. Anderson Dickinson
Oct. 12, 2001

1975 John A. VanRoon
April 10, 2002

1979 Richard L. Brown
Feb. 14, 2002

1984 Matthew Guild
August 12, 2001

1985 Deborah Abplanalp
Jan. 21, 2002

1987 Philip G. Miller
Dec. 6, 2001

1993 Michael David Schrodell
Aug. 23, 2001



Since 1967, **Dawn and Dennis Thomas** (both Class of '65), inset, have opened their farm to their Frostburg family. “This is sacred to us,” Dennis says about the yearly event.

Crab Feast
at Thomas Farm

Since 1967, an Event of Fun, Food and Friendship

Not many people could tell you where and how they spent the Saturday before the Fourth of July for the past 35 years. But a group of Frostburg alumni could – in a heartbeat. What started out as a gathering of about four couples getting together for an annual pool party has grown into an all-out yearly event for alumni of Frostburg State from the mid- to late-1960s.



Made up primarily of members of Tau Kappa Epsilon, a former fraternity at FSU, and Alpha Xi Delta sorority, the annual crab feast held at the Maryland home of Dennis and Dawn Thomas (both Class of '65) is a much-anticipated and well-loved time of eating, reminiscing and strengthening old friendships.

“Dawn and I say that this, outside of personal time with family, is our favorite weekend of the year,” says Dennis, the senior vice president for public affairs and communications at International Paper in Connecticut and former assistant to President Ronald Reagan. “It’s a wonderful sense of ‘center.’ This event will keep you



Alums eat crabs while they gab.

grounded and keep your hat-size in check.”

As many as 46 people have attended and come from as far as North Carolina, Florida and Wyoming.

The traditional Saturday gets under way around noon, as cars drive through winding roads to the 155-acre Thomas Farm in Westminster, Md., which belonged to Dennis’ grandfather.

The former one-room blockhouse has now been converted to two stories and multiple-rooms with an 18th-century stone house exterior and an authentic 19th-century log cabin addition. Inside, the place is filled with the Thomases’ Americana collection of antique flags and photos of Dennis’ years in the Reagan administration.

Partygoers are anxious to see the latest addition to the home that the Thomases are preparing for their retirement. This year, a newly created stone patio greets guests and offers a new meeting place for the party.

“It doesn’t look like it used to be, but it’s



Sandy Day (Class of '67), **Bill Graves** (Class of '65) and **Colleen Peterson**, director of FSU Alumni Programs, share their special memories.

better than it ever was,” Dennis says about the house, with an afterthought. “Sort of like all of us.”

Bill Graves (Class of '65) mans two charcoal grills and cooks kosher hotdogs and hamburger patties. The barbecue smell competes with the wafting aroma of Old Bay seasoning from the bushels of crabs brought in fresh for the party.

“This is a reaffirmation of our friendships,” Graves says. “It’s really special to us. It never gets old.”

However, jokes about participants growing “older” run rampant throughout the day. Someone mentions that a former basketball court, which saw many heated competitions, has been replaced with a new log veranda and rocking chairs.

Graves, who oversees the invitation list for the yearly event, is also in charge of assigning people to bring certain food items.

“This event is absolutely everything to us,” says Sandy Day (Class of '67), who brought the hamburger patties Graves is flip-ping.

“It’s a time to eat, eat, eat and eat some more,” calls out Brian Lockard

(Class of '65), whose wife Linda brings huge chocolate chip cookie ice cream sandwiches that are a hit, year after year.

A new item has just arrived. Dr. Dick Sloop, former professor of geography who served as TKE’s advisor, unveils a stick of Frostburg bologna. Dennis quickly slices it into discs, slaps it on

their classmate, Bob Weimer (Class of '65), who regularly attended the party at Thomas Farm. One of the former presidents of TKE, he is also one of the first losses of this group.

“This is an opportunity to get back in touch with those quality years,” says Dennis Baker (Class of '68). “It’s like going back to yesterday.”

“We can pick up where we left off,” says Linda Lockard (Class of '65). “With true friends, you can do that.”

“This is a support group,” Day says about connecting with friends every year. “And even though we swap stories about the past, we still live in the present. These people still care about one another.”

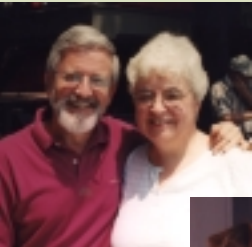
Dennis agrees. “Talking about what happened 35 years ago is good for about an hour,” he laughs. “We can always sit and talk about the world situation and the problems of today.”

That familiarity among classmates is the foundation for this yearly event.

“Most of us are more a product of the '50s than the '60s. There was a similar background with these people. Most of us are first-generation college folks from very middle-class families and we share values that are similar. And as you get older, your value system tends to get stronger.”

As do friendships. “These friendships will last forever because we’ve grown together,” Dawn says. “And the basis for this was created at Frostburg.”

— Ty DeMartino



Brian and Linda Lockard (both Class of '65).



Kit, the unofficial mascot of the event, takes in a summer breeze.



Joe Bruno (Class of '75) transports the Olympic torch on its way to Salt Lake City.

Alumnus Carries Torch for Winter Games

This past December, Joseph Bruno (Class of '75) had an "Olympic-sized" experience that he won't soon forget.

He was selected to carry the Olympic torch through his hometown of Austin, Texas. Bruno, the director of a Montessori School, was nominated by the parents of his students. Over 250,000 individuals apply, while only 11,000 carriers are chosen.

"It was a great honor," he says.

Bruno, who has multiple sclerosis, walked the nighttime trek of two-tenths of a mile with his cane. "You could really see the flame flickering off the cars and the street at night. It was a beautiful experience."

For a souvenir, Bruno was allowed to keep the official outfit of the carriers and he purchased the torch to display in his living room.

A native of the Washington, D.C. area, Bruno has been in Texas since 1976. He has a wife and three children.

"I love Frostburg," he adds about his alma mater. "I cherish the memories of my time there."

— Ty DeMartino

Softball Player Posts Best Season in Program's History

Frostburg State senior Krissy Jackson remembers her first experience playing softball, and it's an episode most would want to forget.

"When I first started playing, I did suck," Jackson laughed. "I was about 10 years old, and I dropped the first fly ball hit to me. I remember people standing around just looking at me."

This past season - nearly 11 years later - people still stood around watching Jackson. Instead of jeers, it was cheers as she posted the best single-season effort by a Bobcat softball player in the program's seven-year history.

A former four-sport standout at Beall High School in Frostburg, Jackson capped her FSU softball career in style, leading the Bobcats with a school-record .515 batting average, 35 hits, 10 doubles, four home runs, 28 RBIs, 57 total bases, a school-record .838 slugging percentage and a whopping .607 on-base percentage. She also ranked third on the team with 22 runs and 15 walks.

Jackson ranked eighth in doubles per game (0.43), 10th in batting average and 20th in RBIs per game (1.22) in the final NCAA Division III national rankings.

"This season was been my best performance," said the light-hearted and easy-going slugger. "I hit the ball very well, and I just went out and gave it all I've got."

Her stellar season brought with it several prestigious awards, including Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference Player of the Year, first-team All-Eastern College Athletic Conference All-Star and first-team National Fastpitch



Krissy Jackson

Coaches Association Division III Atlantic Region All-America honors. She became the first Bobcat player to be named to the NFCA Regional All-America squad and the second to earn AMCC Player of the Year and ECAC All-Star accolades.

Jackson, who graduated in May with a psychology degree, is the school's career leader in games played (105), at bats (305), RBIs (83) and walks (40). She is tied for first in hits (108) and ranks second in runs (78) and doubles (20). She is also in the top five in career triples (5), home runs (5),

total bases (153), batting average (.354), slugging percentage (.502) and stolen bases (15).

Jackson, who hit .336 over her first two seasons at the collegiate level, saw her average dip to .259 last year. This past season, she ranked among the top hitters in all of Division III, an improvement she attributed in part to playing a new position.

"Being a catcher maybe helped me see the ball better," said Jackson, who played in the outfield her first three years before being moved behind the plate this year because of her tremendous athleticism. She also saw nearly half her time at shortstop as well.

"I can't say enough about Krissy as a player and a person," said former Bobcat head coach Becky Keller, who coached Jackson the last four years.

"She was an integral part of the team, and FSU lost a huge pillar from its program. It's very hard to see her go."

Keller nearly missed out on having Jackson in the FSU softball program.

Jackson, who was named the Maryland 1A Softball Player of the Year as a senior at Beall,

wasn't going to play any sports at Frostburg, instead choosing to focus on her academics. A nudge from the Bobcat coaching staff changed Jackson's mind, and she joined the team midway through the preseason of her freshman year.

"I almost begged her (to play)," Keller laughed as she recalled her talk with Jackson. "Really, I told her I had heard great things about her. I think she just needed a little push."

Four years later, Jackson served as a team co-captain and was one of the bright spots in an otherwise disappointing season for the Bobcats. FSU entered the year entering thoughts of challenging for the Allegheny Mountain Collegiate Conference title and hosting the league tournament on its new softball complex.

However, a young squad featuring eight sophomores, five freshmen and a lone senior – Jackson – finished fifth in the league standing at 5-6-1 and just missed out on a berth in the four-team AMCC Tournament. Additionally, the Bobcats had to postpone the grand opening of their new softball complex several times due

to rain-outs.

Despite the team's hardships, Jackson's passion for softball remained as high as her batting average.

"I love the game and tried to show that," she said. "I tried to lead by example, and I hope (my teammates) saw that and followed that lead."

"It was a frustrating season at times," she admitted. "We were better than our record shows; I think it was just a lack of experience. The team was very young, and in the next year or two they'll be very strong."

While she won't leave FSU with a conference championship, Jackson will take with her memories of an outstanding collegiate career. A 9-8 win over regular-season champion La Roche this past year and a 2-1 victory against Western Maryland in 2000 are among her cherished moments.

"La Roche beat us pretty good (11-0) in the first game this year, but we came back and pulled through in the second one. And, I'll never forget playing Western Maryland; they came in as one of the top teams in the region. It was like we won the championship. We just went crazy."

"I'll remember the practices, the friendships and Coach Keller's unique style," Jackson said. "She wasn't a domineering coach, but more of a teacher. And we were her students."

Jackson plans to continue her career as a student at FSU, pursuing her master's degree in interdisciplinary education beginning in the fall. She will serve as a graduate assistant in the Bobcat athletic department and may also help as a volunteer assistant coach with the softball team.

athletic briefs

Bobcat Hall of Fame Inductees

The annual Bobcat Hall of Fame ceremony and banquet will take place the Friday night of FSU's 2002 Homecoming weekend (October 25.)

This year's inductees will include **Diane Wisniewski**, women's basketball (1980-84); **Kathy Marron**, field hockey (1971-72, 1974) /lacrosse (1973 and 1975); **Keith Shorter**, football (1987-90); and **Susan Eisel**, long-time health physical education and recreation/athletics secretary.

Congratulations to all!

Cheerleading Program Kicks into Gear!

FSU's Bobcat cheerleading program is now in its 2nd year under the coaching of **Elinor Stevenson** (Class of '98). The cheerleading squad is comprised of 15 to 20 students and the Bobcat mascot, "Frosty," who doubles as the Keystone Coyote for the Frederick Keys.

This year, the squad will add several new members including freshman **Nikki Vaughn** from Calvary Christian Academy, Cumberland, who was recently honored for her standards of academic excellence, leadership, and character.

The squad cheers at home football and men's home basketball games, and participate in various community service projects both on-campus and off.

The goal for fund-raising this year is to cover travel expenses to additional away games as well as for the purchase of basic equipment. Donations can be made payable to "Friends of Cheerleading," c/o FSU Foundation, Inc., 101 Braddock Road, Frostburg, MD 21532-1099.

2002 Regents' Cup Set

Mark your calendars! The next Regents' Cup football game between the FSU Bobcats and Salisbury Seagulls will take place on Saturday, Nov. 16, at 1 p.m. The location will be

continued ►





George O'Brien

2001-02 Bobcat All-Americans

- **George O'Brien** – junior; Football; Hewlett-Packard NCAA Division III All-America Third Team
- **Pierre Bowery** – junior; Men's Basketball; D3Hoops.com Great Lakes Regional All-America Third Team
- **Kim Faust** – junior; Women's Basketball; D3Hoops.com Atlantic Regional All-America Second Team
- **Adey Ntam** – senior; Women's Lacrosse; Brine/IWLCA South Atlantic Regional All-America First Team
- **Page Macey** – freshman; Women's Lacrosse; Brine/IWLCA South Atlantic Regional All-America Second Team
- **Jon Wieland** – junior; Men's Soccer; NSCAA/Adidas Men's Soccer Scholar All-America Second Team and NSCAA/Adidas Men's Soccer Mid-Atlantic Regional All-America Third Team
- **Krissy Jackson** – senior; Softball; NFCA Division III Atlantic Regional All-America First Team
- **Maria Ferguson** – junior; Women's Track & Field NCAA Division III Outdoor Track & Field All-American (in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes)

"Double" Honor for Football Players

Many on the FSU campus find it difficult to tell identical twins Carlton and Joshua Smith apart. They have the same hairstyle. They share a similar taste in clothes. They study the same major. They play football. And now, they both have been honored as Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars for 2002.

The Ashe Scholars are students of color who excel in academics, athletics and community service. Carlton and Joshua both were listed in a special issue of *Black Issues in Higher Education* (Carlton for 2nd Team and Joshua for 3rd Team in Men's Football). Carlton is a linebacker and Joshua is a defensive back.

"Carlton and Josh are really good kids who work very hard," says FSU Bobcat Football Coach Rubin Stevenson. "They're always at practice and take well to coaching, and it's been great to have them as part of our program."

Just finishing their sophomore years, Carlton and Joshua came to FSU from Largo High School and their hometown of Upper Marlboro, Md., where they participated in football and swimming. They both decided to study secondary education with a focus in art and design.

"We chose Frostburg because of the atmosphere," Joshua says. "It seemed like..."

"...The right place," Carlton pipes in, finishing his brother's thought. "It's a place where you could have fun and get your work done."

The Smith twins were part of FSU's Allen HallSTARS! program their freshman year, a residence hall dedicated to performing community service. Service has been a big part of their lives. Growing up, the twins worked in their

hometown church and helped out at summer camps.

As they head into their junior year, the two will continue to room together, despite parental discouragement.

"Even our Dad asks why we don't split up," Carlton says, laughing.

"It's just easier this way," Joshua adds. "This way, I know my roommate."

To read more about the Arthur Ashe Jr. Sports Scholars, visit online at www.blackissues.com/041102/

— Ty DeMartino



Joshua and Carlton Smith

Spring Sports Overview

BASEBALL

- Finished 20-14 overall and 8-4 in the AMCC.
- Posted a 10-game winning streak, the longest since 1999.
- Won 20 games for the fifth time in the last six seasons.
- Had seven players named to the All-AMCC team (two first team, four second team and one honorable mention).
- Ranked 20th in the nation in scoring (8.8 runs per game) and 22nd in teambatting average (.342).

WOMEN'S LACROSSE

- Finished 6-8 overall.
- Faced four nationally ranked opponents.
- Senior Adey Ntam was named to IWLCA South Atlantic Regional All-America first team and was also selected to play in the IWLCA Division III North/South Senior All-Star Game at John Hopkins University.
- Freshman Page Macey was named to the IWLCA South Atlantic Regional All-America second team.
- Ntam finished ranked third in NCAA Division III with 7.14 ground balls per game.
- Macey finished ranked 25th in NCAA Division III with 3.71 goals per game, and her 13 points against Methodist tied for the second-most points in a game in DIII in 2002.
- Sophomore goalie Sarah Shockley ranked 12th in DIII with a .607 save percentage.

SOFTBALL

- Finished 8-15-1 overall and 5-6-1 in the AMCC.
- Had four All-AMCC selections, including senior Krissy Jackson, who was named the AMCC Most Valuable Player (*see feature story on Jackson*)
- Jackson became the first Bobcat to earn NFCA Division III Atlantic Region All-America first team honors and the second Bobcat to be named to the ECAC Division III Southern All-Star first team.

MEN'S TENNIS

- Finished 13-3 overall and 6-2 in the AMCC.
- Finished second in the AMCC regular-season standings and third at the AMCC Championships.
- Turned in runner-up finishes at the top five singles flights as well as the No. 2 doubles spot at the AMCC Championships.
- Had seven second-team All-AMCC selections.
- Senior Terence Killen was named the AMCC Player of the Year after setting FSU records with 53 singles wins, 41 doubles victories and a combined 94 overall wins.

MEN'S TRACK & FIELD

- Placed fourth at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships.
- Sophomores Randy Belt and Patrick Malone won Mason-Dixon titles in the pole vault and javelin, respectively.



Maria Ferguson

- Won the FSU Invitational, as Belt won four events to earn Male Athlete of the Meet honors.

WOMEN'S TRACK & FIELD

- Sophomore Maria Ferguson earned a pair of All-America honors by placing eighth in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the NCAA Division III Outdoor National Championships.
- Placed third at the Mason-Dixon Conference Championships.
- Ferguson was the Mason-Dixon Conference champion in the 100-meter dash and finished second in the 200-meter event.
- Ferguson set school records in the both the 100- and 200-meter dashes at the NCAA National Championships.

athletic briefs

continued

announced later.

The Regents' Cup was created as a way for these two teams to showcase their longtime rivalry at a site halfway from each campus. The game was named in honor of the University System of Maryland Board of Regents.

Rugby News

The FSU men's club rugby team compiled a 2-2 record last fall and saw its season come to an end with a loss to Salisbury in the regional playoffs. The Bobcats compete as members of the Potomac Rugby Union and face opponents such as Fairmont (W.Va.) State, WVU, George Washington and Georgetown. FSU also takes part in the Rocky Gorge Rugby Club Tournament in Laurel.

Paul Marchbank, who hails from New Zealand and has about 25 years playing experience, has been coaching the Bobcats for the last one and half years. He usually gets 20 or so players out for practices and matches.

"We should be doing well this coming season. We have a lot of younger guys to combine with a good amount of experienced players."

The Bobcats begin their traditional season in September and also compete in tournaments and scrimmages in the spring.

Golf Tourney Winners

The team of Jack Parker, Lynn Lewis, Joe Pace and Lou Femi placed first with a gross score of 57 in the FSU Athletics Golf Tournament held June 1 at Maplehurst Country Club.

Billy Henaghan, Gary Donius, Jim Willis and Mike Wilson teamed to place second with a gross score of 59. Chuck McLuckie, Chris McLuckie, Barry Mazer and Billy Bender were third with 59. Ken Carvey, Eric Day, Rubin Stevenson and Dave Gillespie were first with a net 53. Closest to the pin winners were Wilson (No. 2), Parker (No. 7), Ray Blank (No. 10) and Chuck Woodward (No. 15). Day had the longest drive (No. 5).

A Life-long Learner and Dreamer

When it came time for James Rollins to receive his diploma at the 120th FSU Commencement held this past spring, he was greeted with a rousing and well-deserved standing ovation from his fellow graduates.



James Rollins (Class of '02)

The 74-year-old Cumberland resident who suffered a stroke 10 years ago was finally earning his bachelor's degree in English. This was a day he dreamed about for almost half his life.

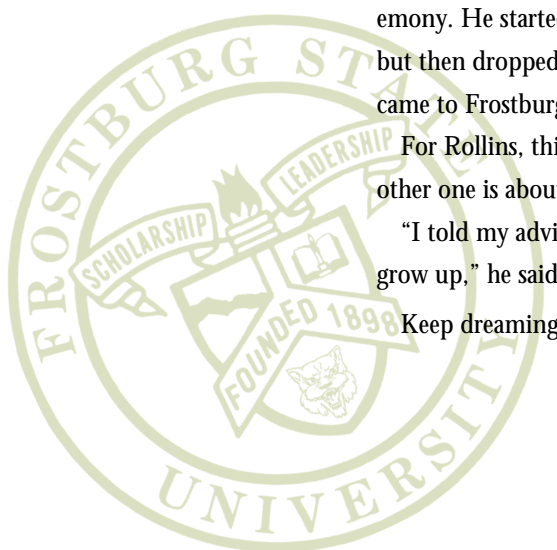
"I've been in college for 35 years," Rollins joked before the ceremony. He started seeking a degree at Allegany College in 1967, but then dropped out to take care of family and career matters. He came to Frostburg in 1995 to pursue his "love of literature."

For Rollins, this part of the journey may have ended, but another one is about to begin.

"I told my advisor that I don't know what I want to be when I grow up," he said with a slight grin.

Keep dreaming, Jim. We could all learn a lesson from you.

— Ty DeMartino



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Take me home.

FSU Homecoming 2002: October 24-27

Capstone Event:

The Frostburg State University Cultural Events Series, Campus Activities Board and the FSU Alumni Association present
Country Singing Sensation

Collin Raye

with special guest
Chad Brock

Saturday, October 26

9:00 pm

Bobcat Arena/FSU Cordts Center

- ▶ Seats range from \$20-\$33
- ▶ Tickets go on sale August 19
- ▶ Call the CES box office M - F, 9 am – 3 pm
301/687-3137 or toll-free 1/866-TIXX-CES
- ▶ Purchase tickets online at <http://ces.frostburg.edu>
(online purchasing powered by CyberSeats)

FSU is committed to making all of its programs, services and activities accessible to persons with disabilities. You may request accommodations through the ADA Compliance Office, 301/687-4102, TDD 301/687-7955.



Plus:

The Friday Nite Café

featuring classic rock singer

Harry Traynham

Friday, October 25

8 pm

Appalachian Station/Lane University Center

FREE — courtesy of the FSU Alumni Association



Alumni Office
Frostburg State University
101 Braddock Road
Frostburg, MD 21532-1099

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Notice: Bulk mail can take quite a while to reach addresses outside the western Maryland area. Therefore, depending on where you live, this may get to you *after* some of the events have occurred. In any case, *Profile* is sure to keep you informed of all that's happening at FSU.

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